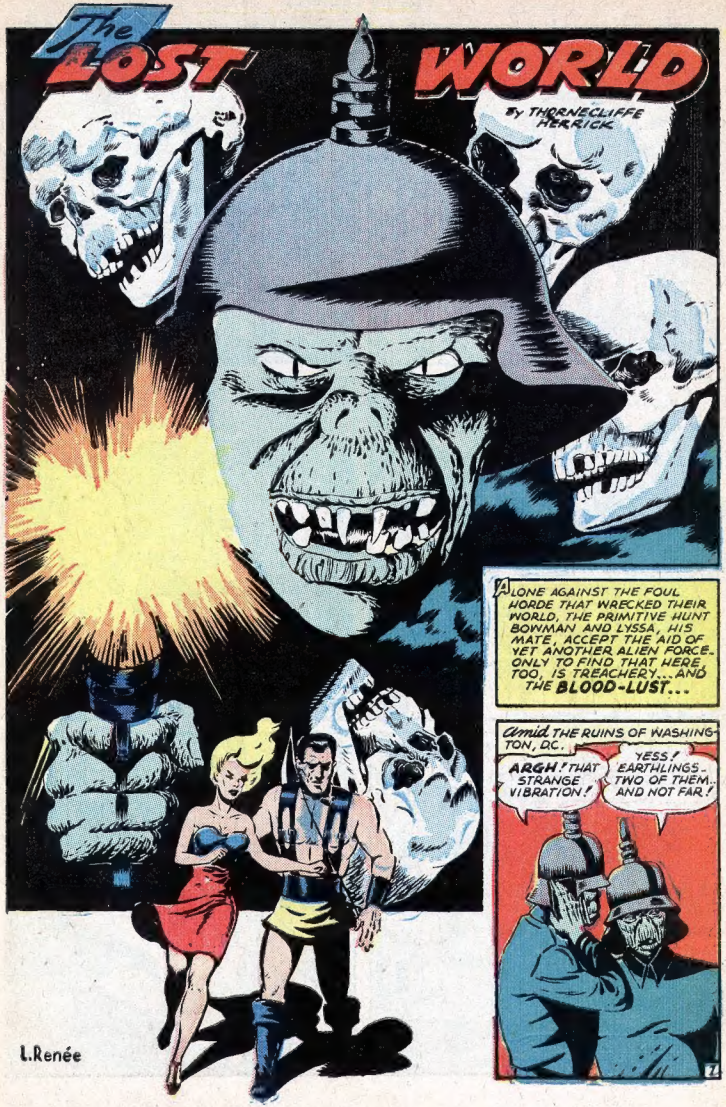
WEIRD ADVENTURES ON OTHER WORLDS—THE UNIVERSE OF THE FUTURE
PLANET
JULY
NO. 37
10¢
"BEHEMOTHS OF THE PURPLE VOID"
FEATURING THE SPACE RANGERS
also MYSTA OF THE MOON
LOST WORLD • STAR PIRATE

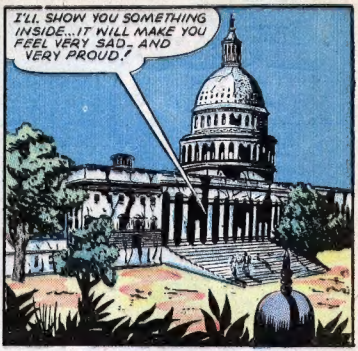
A FICTION HOUSE MAGAZINE

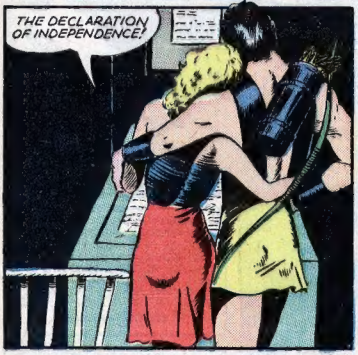
PLANET COMICS, No. 37, July, 1945. Published every other month by Love Romances Pub. Co., Inc., 670 Fifth Ave., New York 19, N. Y. T. T. Scott, Pres.; Paul Payne, Editor. Re-entered as second-class matter July 8, 1940, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Contents copyrighted, 1945, by Love Romances Pub. Co., Inc. Yearly subscription in U. S. $.60; Foreign $.80. Single copies 10¢ in U. S. For advertising rates: Wm. J. Delaney, Inc., 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y. Printed in U. S. A.

NEXT ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS (No. 38, SEPT.) ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTAND JULY 10th.

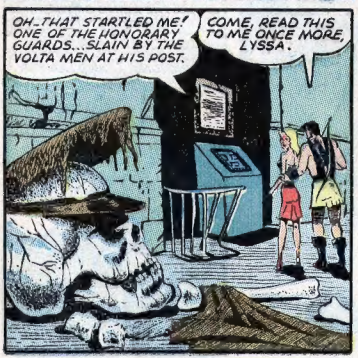

The LOST WORLD
By THORNECLIFFE HERRICK
ALONE AGAINST THE FOUL HORDE THAT WRECKED THEIR WORLD, THE PRIMITIVE HUNT BOWMAN AND LYSSA, HIS MATE, ACCEPT THE AID OF YET ANOTHER ALIEN FORCE—ONLY TO FIND THAT HERE, TOO, IS TREACHERY...AND THE BLOOD-LUST...
Amid THE RUINS OF WASHINGTON, D.C.
ARGH! THAT STRANGE VIBRATION!
YESS! EARTHLINGS—TWO OF THEM—AND NOT FAR!
L.Renée

COAST LOOKS CLEAR, LYSSA...WONDER WHAT PLACE THIS WAS?
THIS WAS THE CENTER OF GOVERNMENT, HUNT-


I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING INSIDE...IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL VERY SAD- AND VERY PROUD.!

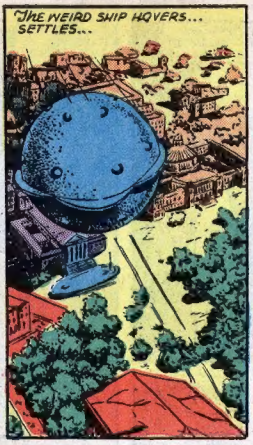

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE!

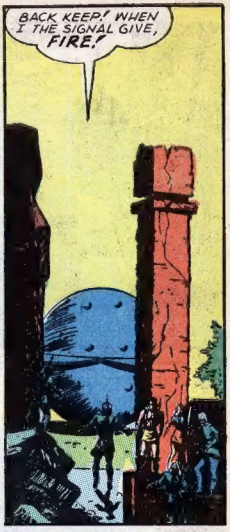
BUT IF WE WERE THE GREATEST NATION ON EARTH HOW DID THE VOLTA MEN CONQUER?
AFTER THE LAST OF THE GREAT WARS WE DESTROYED OUR WEAPONS AND- EEEK!


OH- THAT STARTLED ME! ONE OF THE HONORARY GUARDS...SLAIN BY THE VOLTA MEN AT HIS POST.
COME, READ THIS TO ME ONCE MORE, LYSSA.

SUDDENLY...
...WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT- THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED E..!

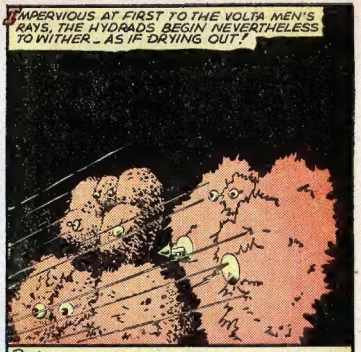
BUT HUNT'S FLARE OF REBELLION WAS FUTILE... YET, EVEN AS THEY STRETCH HIM SENSELESS ON THE FLOOR, STRANGE HELP COMES!





THE HYDRADS OF VENUS!.. SOME BEARING STRANGE WEAPONS ...ALL LOOKING LIKE ANIMATED SPONGES!

FIRING KEEP! THEY NOT KILLED BY ONE DISCHARGE ARE!


IMPERVIOUS AT FIRST TO THE VOLTA MEN'S RAYS, THE HYDRADS BEGIN NEVERTHELESS TO WITHER - AS IF DRYING OUT!

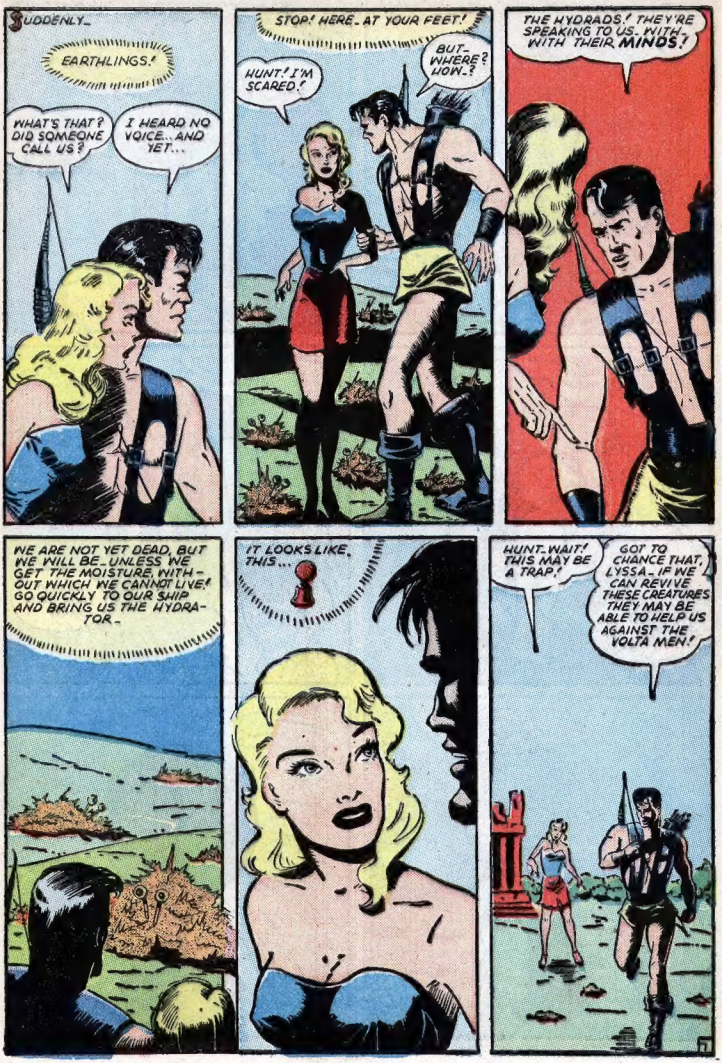
THARKIL! MULG! WATCH THESE TWO!

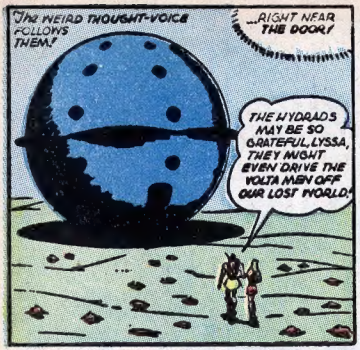
BUT NO SOONER DO THE REST OF THE VOLTA MEN TURN BACK TO THE HYDRADS THAN-
HO, THARKIL, WE NEED MORE THAN TWO TO WATCH US!

-AND YOU, FRIEND- YOU CAN DROP THAT GUN!
ARGH!

RUN, LYSSA- I'LL GET THESE OUT OF SIGHT AND THEN FOLLOW YOU!
5

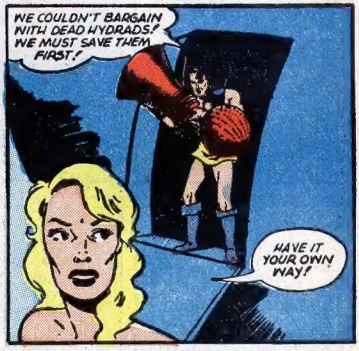
THIS WAY..WE'LL HIDE IN THAT BUILDING..IT LOOKS TOO RUINED TO HIDE IN..MAY FOOL 'EM.!
MEANWHILE THE LAST HYORAD FIGHTS IT OUT TO THE BITTER END.
ARGH.! GOING IS HE.!
IT THEY DEAD BE?
MUST BE! HOW CAN LIVE THEY LIKE THIS?
WHERE ISS THARKIL-MULG?
THEY NOWHERE ARE... PERHAPS THEY EARTHLINGS BACK TO SHIP TOOK?
WE GO SEE...BESIDES, OUR DRUG PROTECTION AGAINST EARTH ATMOSPHERE FAILING IS.!
ARGH, YES..WE GO.!
SOON AS THEY'RE OUT OF SIGHT..

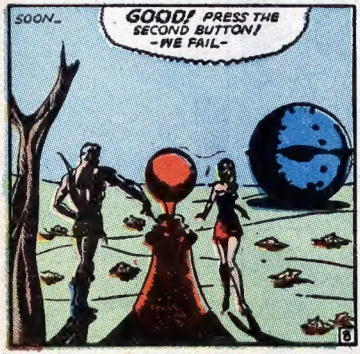

SUDDENLY...
EARTHLINGS!
WHAT'S THAT? DID SOMEONE CALL US?
I HEARD NO VOICE... AND YET...
STOP! HERE... AT YOUR FEET!
BUT... WHERE? HOW...?
HUNT! I'M SCARED!
THE HYDRADS! THEY'RE SPEAKING TO US... WITH... WITH THEIR MINDS!
WE ARE NOT YET DEAD, BUT WE WILL BE... UNLESS WE GET THE MOISTURE, WITHOUT WHICH WE CANNOT LIVE! GO QUICKLY TO OUR SHIP AND BRING US THE HYDRATOR...
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS...
HUNT... WAIT! THIS MAY BE A TRAP!
GOT TO CHANCE THAT, LYSSA... IF WE CAN REVIVE THESE CREATURES THEY MAY BE ABLE TO HELP US AGAINST THE VOLTA MEN!

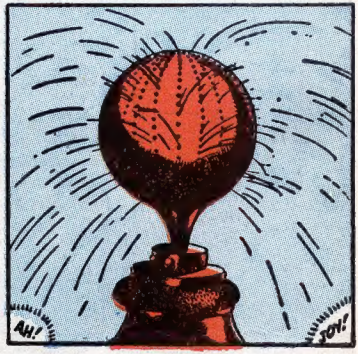

THE WEIRD THOUGHT-VOICE FOLLOWS THEM!
...RIGHT NEAR THE DOOR!
THE HYDRADS MAY BE SO GRATEFUL, LYSSA, THEY MIGHT EVEN DRIVE THE VOLTA MEN OFF OUR LOST WORLD!

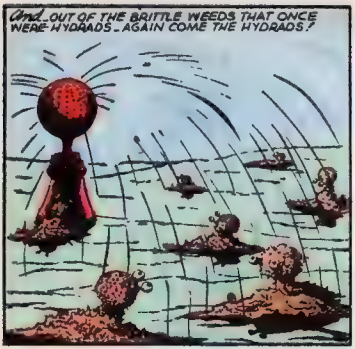
HURRY!
HERE IT IS!

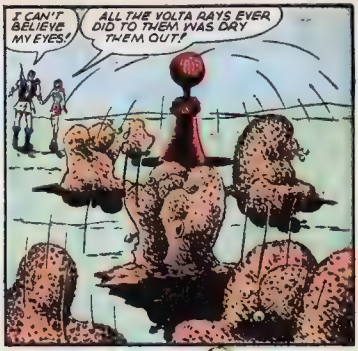
HUNT, WHY NOT BARGAIN WITH THEM?..MAKE SURE THEY'LL HELP US?


WE COULDN'T BARGAIN WITH DEAD HYDRADS! WE MUST SAVE THEM FIRST!
HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY!

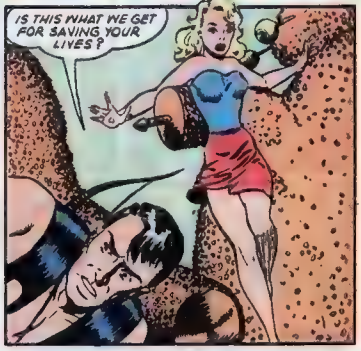

SOON..
GOOD! PRESS THE SECOND BUTTON! -WE FAIL-


AH!
...OY!

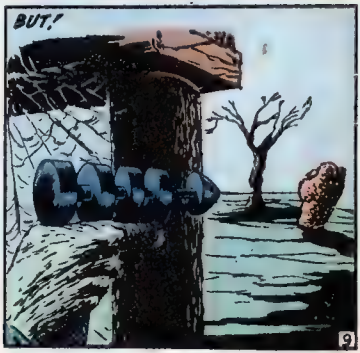

And—OUT OF THE BRITTLE WEEDS THAT ONCE WERE HYDRADS—AGAIN COME THE HYDRADS!

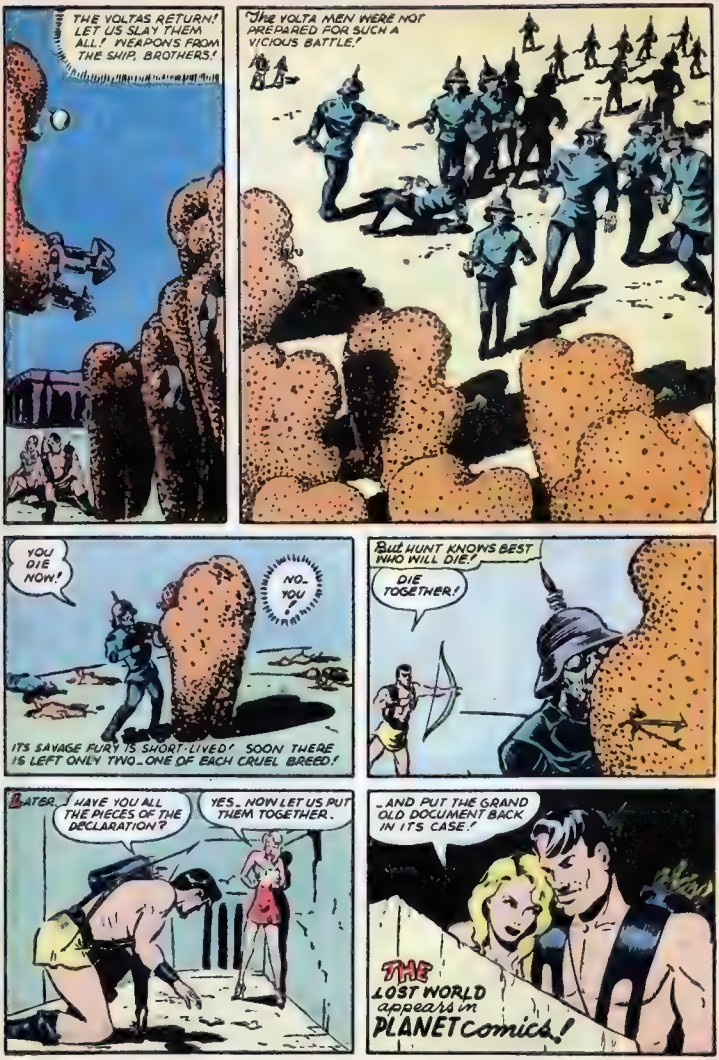

I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES!
ALL THE VOLTA RAYS EVER DID TO THEM WAS DRY THEM OUT!

BUT SUDDENLY
COME, CHILDREN OF THE THIRD PLANET! WE TAKE YOU TO VENUS FOR VIVI-SECTION AND ANALYSIS!
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!


IS THIS WHAT WE GET FOR SAVING YOUR LIVES?

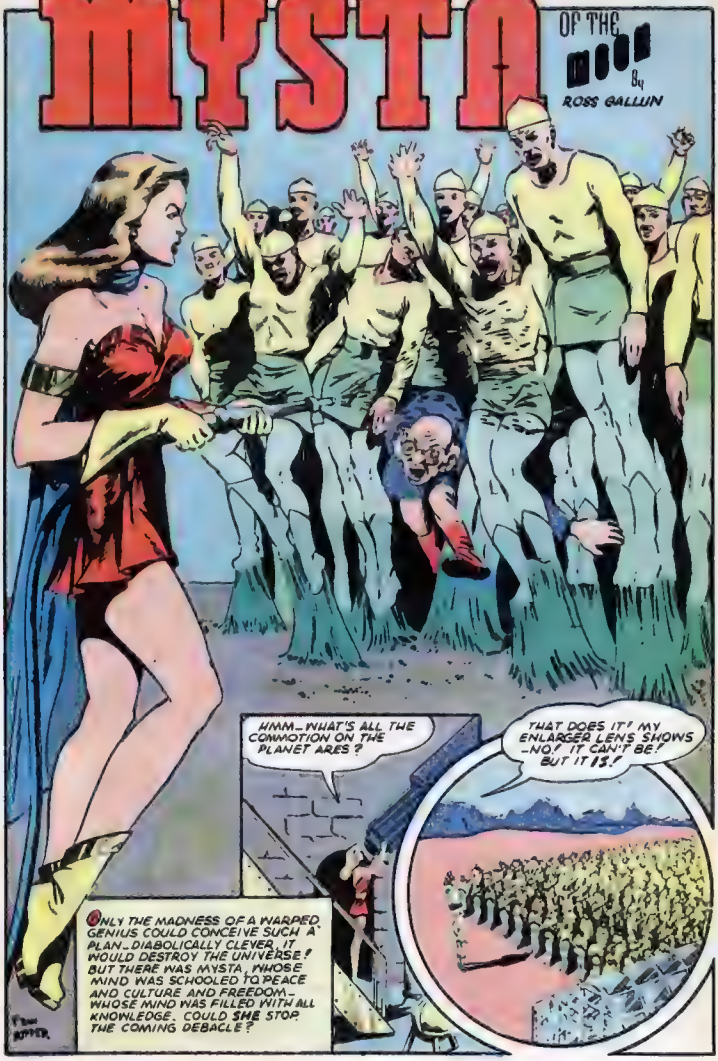
YOU HAD NO CHOICE. WE ARE SUPERIOR!

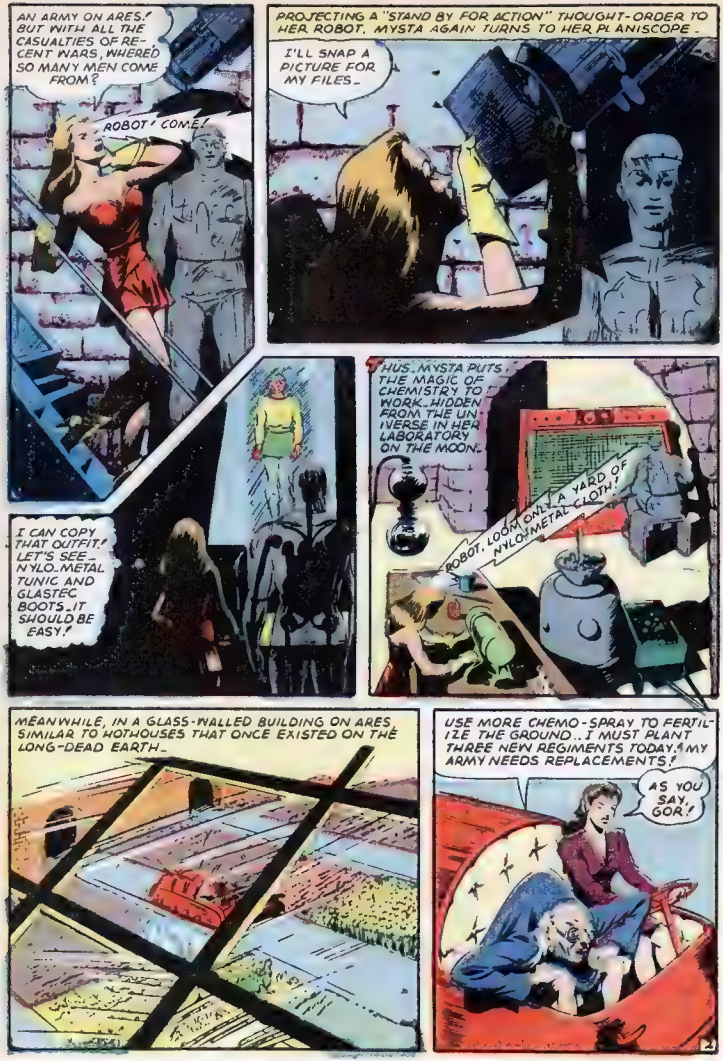

BUT!


THE VOLTAS RETURN! LET US SLAY THEM ALL! WEAPONS FROM THE SHIP, BROTHERS!
THE VOLTA MEN WERE NOT PREPARED FOR SUCH A VICIOUS BATTLE!
YOU DIE NOW!
NO- YOU!
ITS SAVAGE FURY IS SHORT-LIVED! SOON THERE IS LEFT ONLY TWO- ONE OF EACH CRUEL BREED!
BUT HUNT KNOWS BEST WHO WILL DIE!
DIE TOGETHER!
LATER...
HAVE YOU ALL THE PIECES OF THE DECLARATION?
YES- NOW LET US PUT THEM TOGETHER.
-AND PUT THE GRAND OLD DOCUMENT BACK IN ITS CASE!
THE LOST WORLD appears in PLANET Comics!

MYSTA OF THE MOON

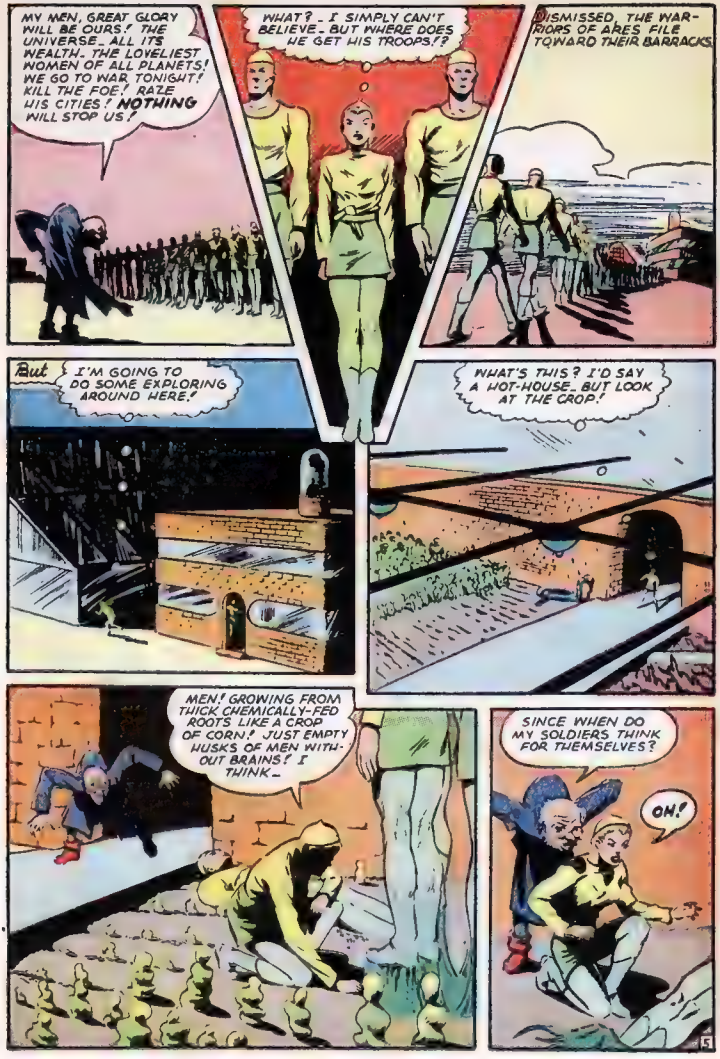
By ROSS GALLUN


HMM—WHAT'S ALL THE COMMOTION ON THE PLANET ARES?
THAT DOES IT! MY ENLARGER LENS SHOWS —NO! IT CAN'T BE! BUT IT IS!
ONLY THE MADNESS OF A WARPED GENIUS COULD CONCEIVE SUCH A PLAN—DIABOLICALLY CLEVER, IT WOULD DESTROY THE UNIVERSE! BUT THERE WAS MYSTA, WHOSE MIND WAS SCHOOLED TO PEACE AND CULTURE AND FREEDOM—WHOSE MIND WAS FILLED WITH ALL KNOWLEDGE. COULD SHE STOP THE COMING DEBACLE?


AN ARMY ON ARES! BUT WITH ALL THE CASUALTIES OF RECENT WARS, WHERED SO MANY MEN COME FROM?
ROBOT! COME!
PROJECTING A "STAND BY FOR ACTION" THOUGHT-ORDER TO HER ROBOT, MYSTA AGAIN TURNS TO HER PLANISCOPE.
I'LL SNAP A PICTURE FOR MY FILES.
I CAN COPY THAT OUTFIT! LET'S SEE. NYLO-METAL TUNIC AND GLASTEC BOOTS. IT SHOULD BE EASY!
THUS, MYSTA PUTS THE MAGIC OF CHEMISTRY TO WORK. HIDDEN FROM THE UNIVERSE IN HER LABORATORY ON THE MOON.
ROBOT, LOOM ONLY A YARD OF NYLOMETAL CLOTH!
MEANWHILE, IN A GLASS-WALLED BUILDING ON ARES SIMILAR TO HOTHOUSES THAT ONCE EXISTED ON THE LONG-DEAD EARTH.
USE MORE CHEMO-SPRAY TO FERTILIZE THE GROUND... I MUST PLANT THREE NEW REGIMENTS TODAY. MY ARMY NEEDS REPLACEMENTS!
AS YOU SAY, GOR!

HA,! ONLY I KNOW THE SECRET! I PLANT SEEDS- AND GROW MEN! A WHOLE ARMY OF MEN TO FIGHT FOR ME! AND WITH THEM I'LL CONQUER THE UNIVERSE!
JUST THE PROPER SEEDS, AND CHEMICALS TO NOURISH THEM! AND OF COURSE, MY GENIUS!
SERFS! TAKE THE FULL-GROWN MANPLANTS TO MY LAB! I WILL INJECT LIFE INTO THEM!
BE QUICK!
SET THE NEW SEEDS HERE...GIVE THEM THE MATURLAMPS. I WANT THEM FULL GROWN BY NIGHT!
WHILE ON THE MOON-
THEY MAY NOT KNOW IT YET- BUT I'VE JUST DRAFTED MYSELF INTO THE ARES ARMY!
3

WILLING HER ROBOT TO FOLLOW, MYSTA ENTERS HER ROCKET PROPULSION TUNNEL
KIND OF QUEER, STARTING ON A QUEST. WITHOUT THE LEAST IDEA WHAT IT IS I'M LOOKING FOR!
LATER... HERE WE ARE.. BLEAK, ARID ARÈS. DESTROYED IN THE LAST UNIVERSE WAR!
WAIT FOR ME!
ARMIES ARE OUTLAWED BY TREATY!
I'LL GO TO THE DRILL FIED I SAW IN THE PLANISCOPE! ER..OH! TROOPS!
BUT THIS IS REALLY LUCK!
BECAUSE I'LL TAG AFTER THEM!


MY MEN, GREAT GLORY WILL BE OURS! THE UNIVERSE— ALL ITS WEALTH— THE LOVELIEST WOMEN OF ALL PLANETS! WE GO TO WAR TONIGHT! KILL THE FOE! RAZE HIS CITIES! NOTHING WILL STOP US!
WHAT? — I SIMPLY CAN'T BELIEVE— BUT WHERE DOES HE GET HIS TROOPS!?
DISMISSED, THE WARRIORS OF ARES FILE TOWARD THEIR BARRACKS
But I'M GOING TO DO SOME EXPLORING AROUND HERE!
WHAT'S THIS? I'D SAY A HOT-HOUSE— BUT LOOK AT THE CROP!
MEN! GROWING FROM THICK CHEMICALLY-FED ROOTS LIKE A CROP OF CORN! JUST EMPTY HUSKS OF MEN WITHOUT BRAINS! I THINK—
SINCE WHEN DO MY SOLDIERS THINK FOR THEMSELVES?
OH!

NOW I REMEMBER STORIES I'VE HEARD ABOUT HIM... HE'S GOR OF ARES...
THE MADMAN! I'LL RUSH WIM BEFORE HE KNOWS WHAT I'M DOING!
SERF!
THE GUN, SERF!
YOU...MYSTA! YOU'VE BESTED OTHERS... BUT NOT GOR!
I HAVEN'T STARTED ON YOU YET!
ROBOT - COME!

RECEIVING MYSTA'S THOUGHT-ORDER, THE ROBOT CLICKS INTO MOTION-COLLAPSING TIME VIA SEVEN LEAGUE STRIDES.
HE TEARS DOWN BARBED WIRES WITH HIS SUPER-CHARGED METAL HANDS.
RADIATING ELECTROCUTING SHOCKS TO WITHER GOR'S GUARDS DEAD IN THEIR TRACKS!
CLOMPS ON TO THE AID OF HIS MISTRESS.
STOP HIM! HE'S SMASHED THE CHEMO-GLASS WALLS! MY MAN-PLANTS WILL DIE FROM UNFILTERED LIGHT!
LET THE GIRL GO, YOU OAF! SEAL THE ROOF! MY PLANTS ARE WITHERING!
PICK HIM UP, ROBOT- AND TOSS HIM!
EEAA!

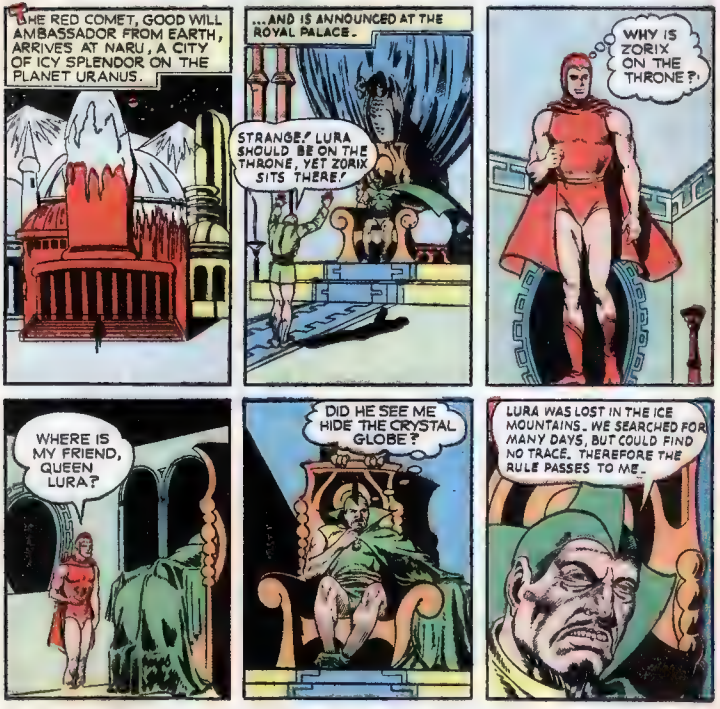
IF CHEMICALS CAN MAKE THIS ARMY... THERE'S NO REASON WHY CHEMISTRY CAN'T DESTROY IT!
SHE'S GOT THE CHEMO-HOSE! STOP! STOP!
THE CHEMICALS ROOT GOR'S ARMY TO THE SOIL-
THEY'RE GROWING AGAIN! BUT WHERE'S GOR?
HELP!! I'M TRAPPED IN THIS F-FOREST OF M-MEN! HELP!
THEN SUDDENLY ATTAINING SUPER-MAXIMUM SIZE, THE MANPLANTS BURST! ALL THAT WAS GOR AND HIS EVIL DISSOLVE IN SEARING ACIDS-
THAT'S OVER! LOOK, ROBOT. HOW FAST THE WEEDS COVER GOR'S GARDEN OF ARMIES! I'LL MAKE A RECORD OF THIS AT HOME FOR FUTURE TYRANTS TO READ!

MYSTA in every issue of PLANET COMICS!!

RED COMET

BY CY TWATCHER

FROM OUR FILES OF THE FAMOUS ALL-TIME PLANET CLASSICS - RE-DRAWN BY REQUEST.


THE RED COMET, GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR FROM EARTH, ARRIVES AT NARU, A CITY OF ICY SPLENDOR ON THE PLANET URANUS.
...AND IS ANNOUNCED AT THE ROYAL PALACE.
STRANGE! LURA SHOULD BE ON THE THRONE, YET ZORIX SITS THERE!
WHY IS ZORIX ON THE THRONE?
WHERE IS MY FRIEND, QUEEN LURA?
DID HE SEE ME HIDE THE CRYSTAL GLOBE?
LURA WAS LOST IN THE ICE MOUNTAINS. WE SEARCHED FOR MANY DAYS, BUT COULD FIND NO TRACE. THEREFORE THE RULE PASSES TO ME.

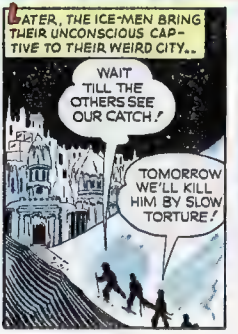
BUT THERE'S A SLIM CHANCE SHE'S STILL ALIVE! I'M LEAVING IMMEDIATELY=
SUIT YOURSELF, BUT REMEMBER- DANGER LIES AHEAD IN THE LAND OF THE ICE-MEN!

HOURS LATER..
I'VE SEARCHED EVERY-WHERE, BUT NOT A TRACE! IF THE ICE-DEVILS FOUND HER...

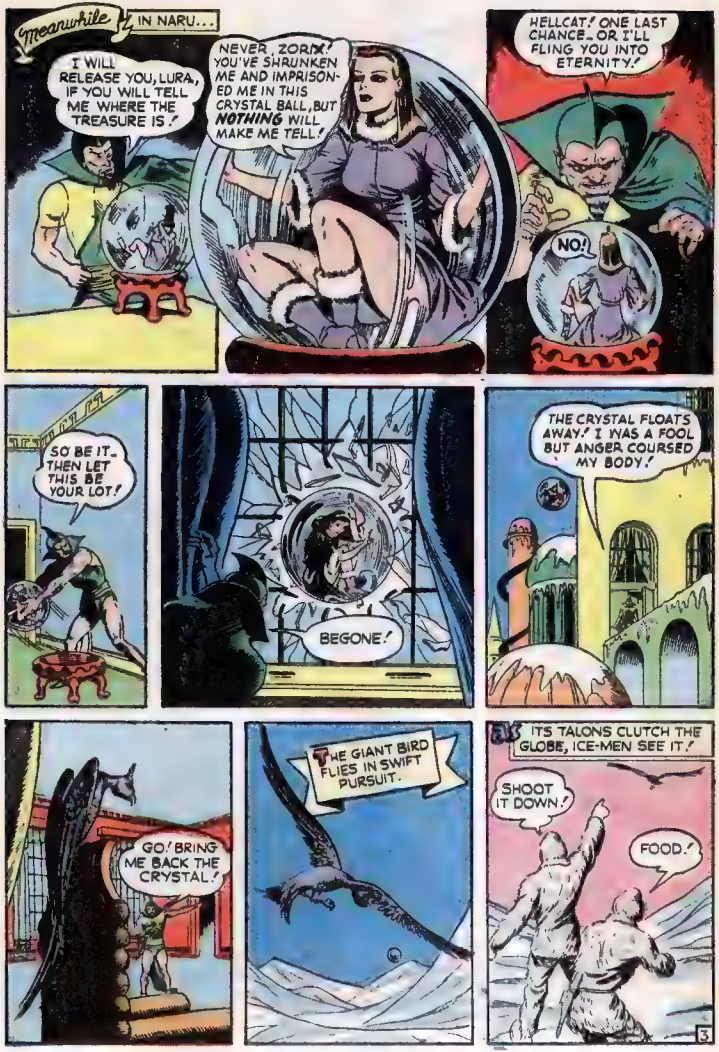
SUDDENLY..
ICE-MEN! I'VE GOT TO RUN!
OTHERWORLDER -SEIZE HIM!

BUT THE STRANGE CREATURES CLOSE IN SWIFTLY...
THEY'RE USING POISON SHAFTS! I'LL STAND A CHANCE IF ONE DOESN'T SPEAR ME!

SUDDENLY..

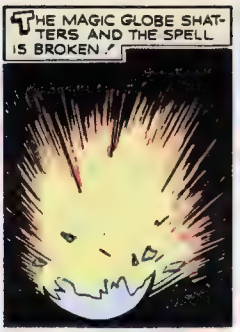

LATER, THE ICE-MEN BRING THEIR UNCONSCIOUS CAP-TIVE TO THEIR WEIRD CITY..
WAIT TILL THE OTHERS SEE OUR CATCH!
TOMORROW WE'LL KILL HIM BY SLOW TORTURE!

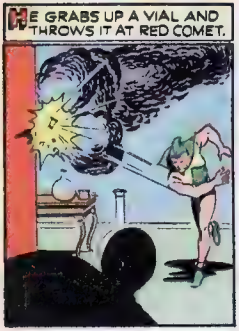
THROW HIM IN THE DUNGEON FOR TONIGHT!

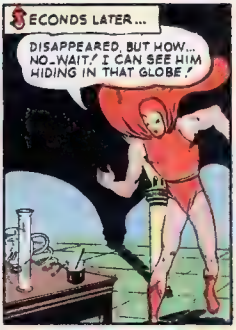

Meanwhile IN NARU...
I WILL RELEASE YOU, LURA, IF YOU WILL TELL ME WHERE THE TREASURE IS!
NEVER, ZORIX! YOU'VE SHRUNKEN ME AND IMPRISONED ME IN THIS CRYSTAL BALL, BUT NOTHING WILL MAKE ME TELL!
HELLCAT! ONE LAST CHANCE.. OR I'LL FLING YOU INTO ETERNITY!
NO!
SO BE IT.. THEN LET THIS BE YOUR LOT!
BEGONE!
THE CRYSTAL FLOATS AWAY! I WAS A FOOL BUT ANGER COURSED MY BODY!
GO! BRING ME BACK THE CRYSTAL!
THE GIANT BIRD FLIES IN SWIFT PURSUIT.
ITS TALONS CLUTCH THE GLOBE, ICE-MEN SEE IT!
SHOOT IT DOWN!
FOOD!
3

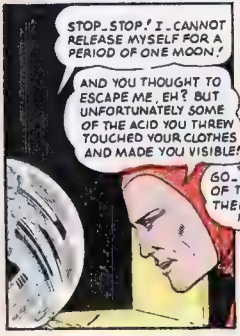
A SPEAR KILLS THE BIRD....
LATER, RED COMET HEARS THE JUBILANT HUNTERS FROM HIS CELL.
CAN THAT BE LURA?
IT IS LURA! BUT HOW DID SHE GET SO TINY?
SHE IS MAGIC! WE'LL HANG HER IN THE GREAT HALL!
THE ICE-MEN WORSHIP THE MAGIC CRYSTAL.
WHILE
NOW I MUST CALL UPON MY POWER TO GROW TO GIANT SIZE!
CRASHES OUT OF HIS PRISON AND INTO THE GREAT WALL!
HE REACHES UP AND GRASPS THE GLOBE...
GIANT DEVIL! SPEAR HIM!
SEEKING POWER AND NARU'S TREASURE, ZORIX PUT ME IN HERE BY HIS MAGIC. ONLY HE CAN RELEASE ME!
LURA-WHAT HAPPENED? I- I CAN'T BREAK YOU FREE!
4

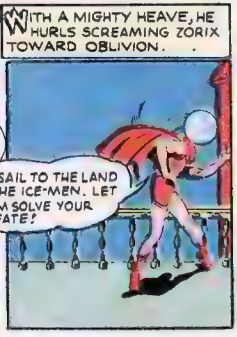
CARRYING LURA, RED COMET BREAKS OUT OF THE BUILDING.
THEN WE'LL GO TO HIM! ONE SIDE!
ENRAGED ICE-MEN FOLLOW, THROWING A HAIL OF SPEARS....
BUT FINALLY RED COMET OUTDISTANCES THEM, AND..
LOOK, LURA, NARU LIES AHEAD. SOON I'LL HAVE YOU FREE!
RED COMET RUSHES INTO THE THRONE ROOM....
RED COMET— AND LURA! HOW...
NEVER MIND THAT, ZORIX!
YOU'RE GOING TO FREE LURA NOW, OR I'LL CRUSH EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY!
NO—NO, WAIT I'LL DO IT— LET ME GO!
ZORIX MUTTERS A SPELL.
CAREFUL, ZORIX! YOU'LL GET NO CHANCE TO PULL TRICKS!
BUT INSTANTLY RED COMET BECOMES TINY AND IS PUT IN WITH LURA!
SO THE LITTLE EARTHMAN IS GOING TO KILL ZORIX! HA!

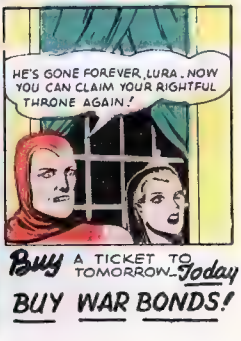







STOP-STOP! I-CANNOT RELEASE MYSELF FOR A PERIOD OF ONE MOON!
AND YOU THOUGHT TO ESCAPE ME, EH? BUT UNFORTUNATELY SOME OF THE ACID YOU THREW TOUCHED YOUR CLOTHES AND MADE YOU VISIBLE!





Buy A TICKET TO TOMORROW-Today
BUY WAR BONDS!

PLANET COMICS

THE INVADERS

By GAROLD S. HATFIELD

DAVID MANNERS, newly appointed Comptroller of the Inter-allied War Bureau, leaned back in his swivel-chair, and tented his fingers on his lap, while keen grey eyes studied the man who fidgeted awkwardly before him.

"I don't understand, Hopkins," he said evenly. "You asked for an appointment, giving as your reason that you had news of danger to the peace of the world. Now, you appear to be afraid to talk. Why?"

Samuel Hopkins, short and slender, his baldish head cocked a bit to one side, as he studied the seated man, shrugged nervously, gestured at the closed door.

"I'm afraid," he said slowly. "I think he's a Krak."

"My secretary a Krak? What the devil's that—some sort of lodge?"

"I think he's one of the *things* that intend to conquer the world."

Manners gazed blankly, for a second, staring at the perspiring features of the little man. Then knowledge came to his eyes, and he leaned forward indulgently, one hand sliding toward the call buttons on his desk.

"Take it easy, Hopkins," he said evenly. "Everything is all right; everything is all right."

Hopkins leaped forward, bent over the desk. Manners' hand stopped its slow movement, and he stared silently while the little man talked.

"I swear, Mr. Manners," Hopkins said quietly, "that I am not crazy. For five years I've been tracing down rumors, adding fact on fact, until now I know just what is happening."

"And that is—?" Manners asked skeptically.

Samuel Hopkins mopped his forehead with a white handkerchief, sank into a large chair. "Let me tell the story my way, sir?" he begged.

"Go ahead."

"It began," Hopkins said, "about five years ago, when I was working off the coast of Florida with a bathysphere. My expedition had been making dives and taking pictures for several weeks. One day, when making a fairly deep dive, I found a strange sort of ship about six hundred feet down in the water. Naturally, I couldn't have much mobility in the sphere; but I did manage to maneuver the bell until I made certain that the strange object was a streamlined rocket-ship.

"My sphere was attacked then by strange creatures that were almost human, except that their heads were like small bushes of fleshy fronds, and gill-openings were evident in their chests. I barely managed to escape. My bell was pulled up to the surface, and I told my men what I had seen. They laughed, thinking my eyes had tricked me. But I knew I was right, so had the pilot of our little sea-plane fly me to the mainland for more powerful lights for my sphere.

"We were but a few miles from my expedition's ship when a concussion rocked the plane; and, looking about, we saw a great explosion blow our ship to pieces. When we returned, we found only scraps of lumber to show that our expedition had ever been. I knew then that I had encountered a danger such as men had never known existed.

"I went into hiding, changed my name, even had plastic surgery done on my face, so that I could not be recognized. I was the only man alive who knew of the menace in the sea, and even I did not know what that menace was.

"I began collecting odd scraps of information, had a clipping bureau mail me news reports of strange happenings and disappearances throughout the world. And slowly I got a picture of what was happening, building it from scraps of information, that alone meant nothing.

"But I made a mistake. These Kraks, as I later found their name to be, traced me through the clipping bureau. One night, as I entered my room, I was captured by several men, and taken to some hideout near the waterfront. I was questioned for several hours by these men, but refused to tell any-

thing I knew, I was locked in a small room.

"I looked through the keyhole. And then it was I saw the most horrible thing of all. Those *men* lifted away false heads, and disclosed the leafy heads of the water-men.

"I was stunned. I almost stopped breathing. For I knew now how diabolically clever these creatures were. With incredible skill they had built false bodies for themselves, and were walking about the Earth as though it were their natural home. With those disguises they could penetrate into any layer of society, go where they pleased, and no one would suspect them for what they really were.

"Odd bits of information came to my mind then, items about the momentary disappearances of famous men throughout the world, and then of their reappearance. I knew then that the men were dead, and that these strange creatures had taken their places, wearing life-like bodies of their victims.

"Oh, they must have been incredibly clever, for they appeared to breathe, eat and sleep like humans, yet were creatures of another world. They had infiltrated into high places, building an empire of intrigue that some day would topple the peace of the world, would some day make the world impotent to combat the threat of the monsters yet to come.

"I escaped accidentally. I lit a cigarette and by chance set fire to some waste in a paper basket. The monsters are evidently horribly afraid of flames, for when I screamed, they opened the door, then fled in panic. I immediately dashed to freedom, changing taxis, one by one, and then taking the first train out of the city.

"They followed me with incredible patience, tracing me from place to place, driving me into darker holes month by month. But I had contacts of which they apparently knew nothing, for I gathered funds and began again my collecting of evidence against them."

Hopkins gestured at the two bulging briefcases he had placed on the mahogany desk, and his eyes darted about the quiet room. David Manners watched silently, his hand close again to the call buttons that would summon help instantly.

"The evidence is there, what I could gather in three years of fleeing and hiding from those soulless devils," Hopkins continued. "I have checked and rechecked every item there, have even watched those pseudo-humans as they went about their chosen work.

"I tell you this, for I know that you have the power to make an investigation such as I cannot do. You are the comptroller, and you can completely disarm the world, if you and your staff so desire. And conversely, you can rearm to meet any aggression that is coming from space.

"I am not insane, although I should be by now, for I have done things that I never thought it possible for myself to do. I don't ask you to believe a thing I say —until you look at the proof I have brought with me."

David Manners shrugged, reached for the first briefcase. "I haven't the time to go through all that you have, that is evident. But to satisfy you, I shall look at part of it."

Hopkins smiled for the first time. "I anticipated that," he said, "and made a brief summary of most of the facts for you. You will find them in the first large envelope."

The Comptroller lifted the envelope from the case he had unlocked, spread the contents on the blotter, began to read. His mouth drew tight within seconds, and his eyes glanced at the taut little man sitting at the other side of the desk.

"This is dynamite, if it is true," he said cautiously.

Samuel Hopkins nodded eagerly, nervously fingered a cigarette. The Comptroller shook his head.

"Please don't smoke," he said. "The fumes make me ill."

"Sure, sure!" the little man agreed, put the cigarette away.

Manners smiled, began his reading again. His gaze flicked over page after page. Minutes droned by unhurriedly, and still the pages rustled in the Comptroller's fingers.

"Very interesting," he said at last, laid the papers aside.

"Then you'll take steps?" Hopkins asked eagerly.

"Immediately," Manners agreed, touched a call button.

Two burly guards stepped into the office, glanced woodenly at the most powerful man in the world.

"Take this man away, and lock him up—he is insane," Manners snapped. "Let him talk to no one."

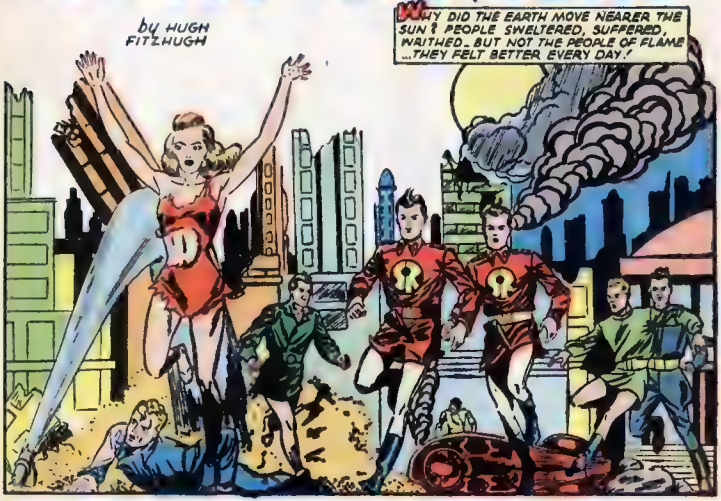
The little man tried to escape, but rough hands caught him before he had taken two steps, dragged him screaming from the room. The Comptroller heard the noise fade outside his office, then walked to the window that overlooked the greatest city in the world. His gaze went about unhurriedly, and he nodded.

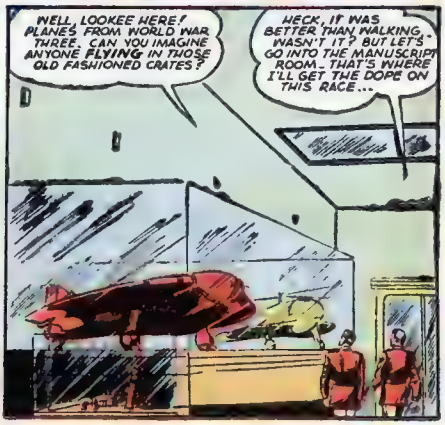
Then he loosened the false head he had been wearing, laid it aside. He was a brush-headed monster then, the leader of the Kraks.

"The time has come," he whispered then to a doomed world. "Tonight we strike."

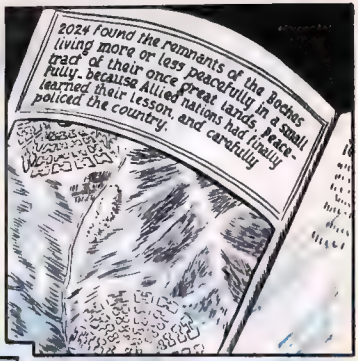
FLINT BAKER and REEF RYAN
SPACE RANGERS

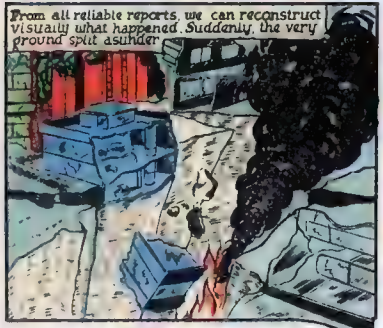
by HUGH FITZHUGH

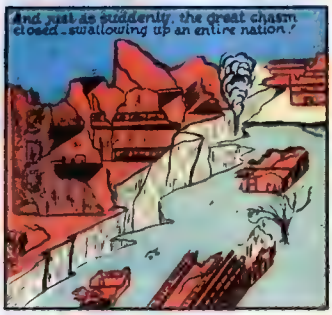

WHY DID THE EARTH MOVE NEARER THE SUN ? PEOPLE SWELTERED, SUFFERED, WRITHED.. BUT NOT THE PEOPLE OF FLAME ..THEY FELT BETTER EVERY DAY.'


WELL, LOOKEE HERE! PLANES FROM WORLD WAR THREE. CAN YOU IMAGINE ANYONE FLYING IN THOSE OLD FASHIONED CRATES?
HECK, IT WAS BETTER THAN WALKING, WASN'T IT? BUT LET'S GO INTO THE MANUSCRIPT ROOM.. THAT'S WHERE I'LL GET THE DOPE ON THIS RACE...

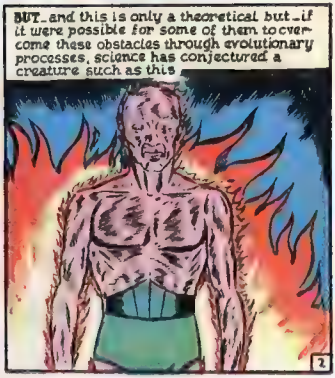
YEP. THIS IS IT... AND LOOK AT THESE PICS.
GERMANS? I VAGUELY REMEMBER LEARNING ABOUT THEM IN SPACE SCHOOL. TURN ON, CHUM.


2024 found the remnants of the Bochs living more or less peacefully in a small tract of their once great lands. Peacefully, because Allied nations had finally learned their lesson, and carefully policed the country.

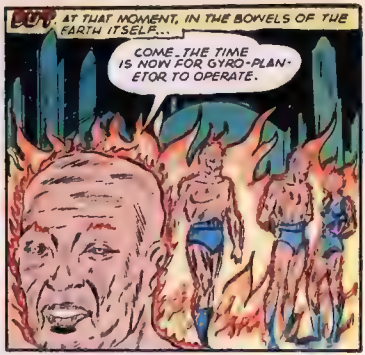

From all reliable reports, we can reconstruct visually what happened. Suddenly, the very ground split asunder!

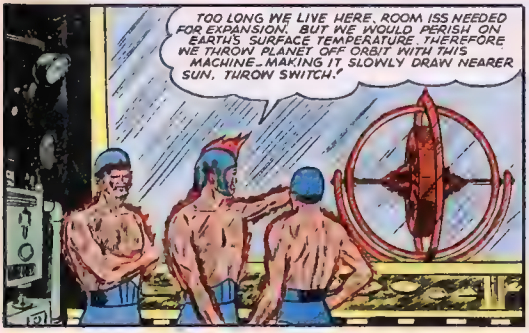

And just as suddenly, the great chasm closed - swallowing up an entire nation!

Undoubtedly, most of them must have perished, either due to pressure, lack of oxygen, or the intense flames.

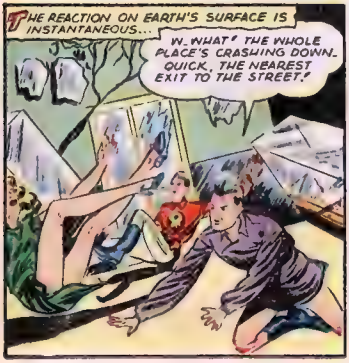

BUT - and this is only a theoretical but - if it were possible for some of them to overcome these obstacles through evolutionary processes, science has conjectured a creature such as this

SHORT AND SWEET! WOULDN'T IT BE FUNNY IF SOMEONE DID EXIST?
BALDERDASH, BUNK AND PHOOEY! WHOEVER FIGURED OUT THAT PIC WAS HITTING THE PIPE TOO MUCH!

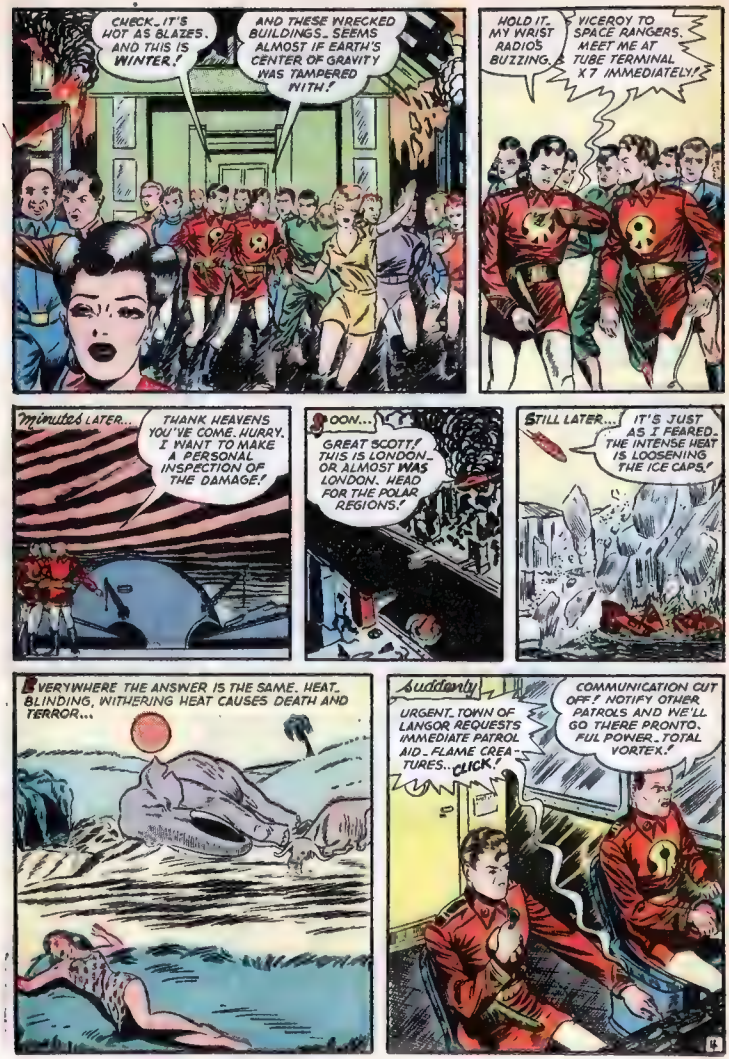

BUT AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH ITSELF...
COME. THE TIME IS NOW FOR GYRO-PLANETOR TO OPERATE.

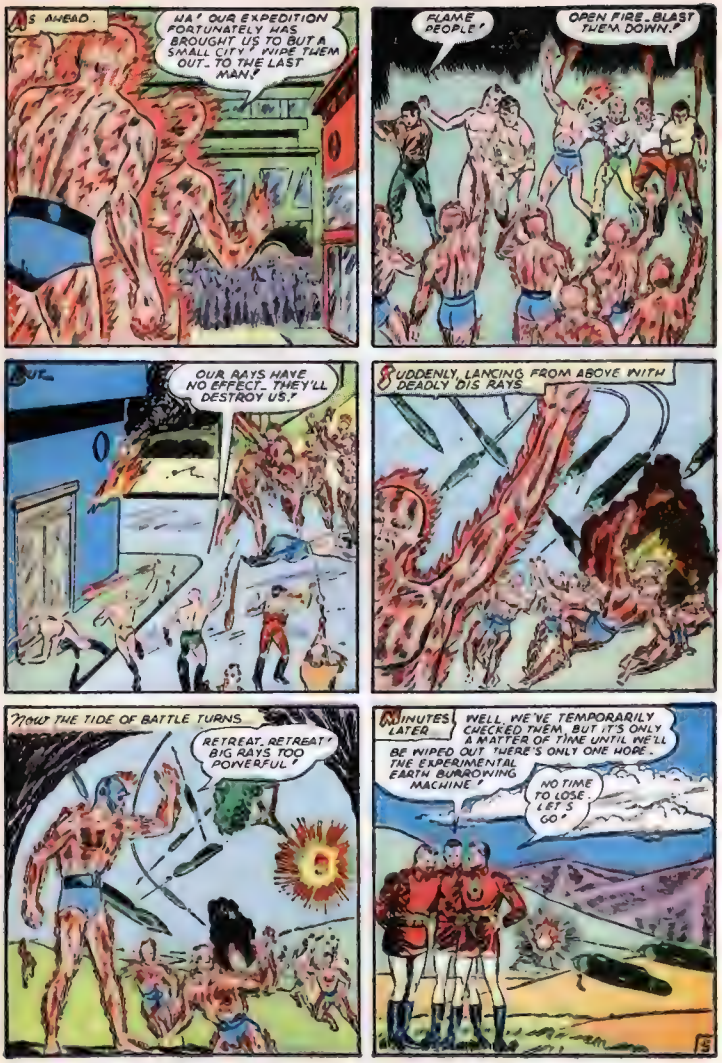

TOO LONG WE LIVE HERE. ROOM ISS NEEDED FOR EXPANSION. BUT WE WOULD PERISH ON EARTH'S SURFACE TEMPERATURE. THEREFORE WE THROW PLANET OFF ORBIT WITH THIS MACHINE. MAKING IT SLOWLY DRAW NEARER SUN. THROW SWITCH!

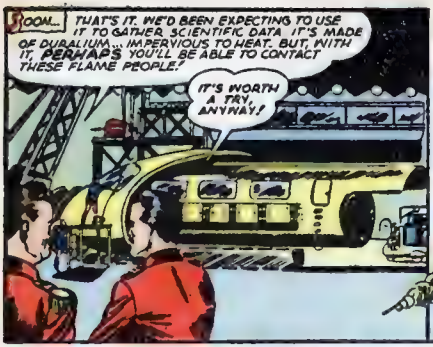
THE EVIL INVENTION SUCCEEDS! SLOWLY THE GREAT PLANET IS DRAWN TOWARDS THE FLAMING ORBIT...

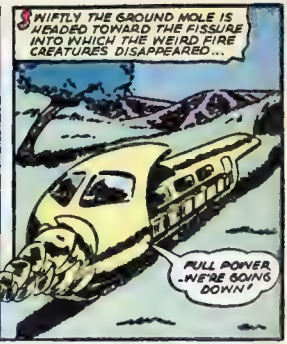

THE REACTION ON EARTH'S SURFACE IS INSTANTANEOUS...
W-WHAT? THE WHOLE PLACE'S CRASHING DOWN. QUICK, THE NEAREST EXIT TO THE STREET!

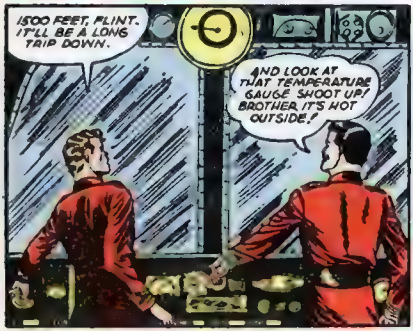
FLINT. WHAT'S WRONG? SO HOT-MUGGY. AND ALL THIS WRECKAGE. SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG WITH THIS PLANET!


CHECK. IT'S HOT AS BLAZES. AND THIS IS WINTER!
AND THESE WRECKED BUILDINGS. SEEMS ALMOST IF EARTH'S CENTER OF GRAVITY WAS TAMPERED WITH!
HOLD IT. MY WRIST RADIO'S BUZZING.
VICEROY TO SPACE RANGERS. MEET ME AT TUBE TERMINAL X7 IMMEDIATELY!
Minutes LATER...
THANK HEAVENS YOU'VE COME. HURRY. I WANT TO MAKE A PERSONAL INSPECTION OF THE DAMAGE!
Soon...
GREAT SCOTT! THIS IS LONDON. OR ALMOST WAS LONDON. HEAD FOR THE POLAR REGIONS.
STILL LATER...
IT'S JUST AS I FEARED. THE INTENSE HEAT IS LOOSENING THE ICE CAPS!
EVERYWHERE THE ANSWER IS THE SAME. HEAT. BLINDING, WITHERING HEAT CAUSES DEATH AND TERROR...
Suddenly
URGENT. TOWN OF LANGOR REQUESTS IMMEDIATE PATROL AID. FLAME CREATURES.. CLICK!
COMMUNICATION CUT OFF! NOTIFY OTHER PATROLS AND WE'LL GO THERE PRONTO. FUL POWER. TOTAL VORTEX!

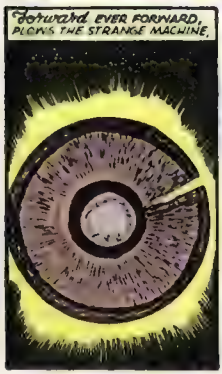

AS AHEAD.
HA! OUR EXPEDITION FORTUNATELY HAS BROUGHT US TO BUT A SMALL CITY! WIPE THEM OUT- TO THE LAST MAN!
FLAME PEOPLE!
OPEN FIRE- BLAST THEM DOWN!
BUT-
OUR RAYS HAVE NO EFFECT- THEY'LL DESTROY US!
SUDDENLY LANCING FROM ABOVE WITH DEADLY DIS RAYS
NOW THE TIDE OF BATTLE TURNS
RETREAT- RETREAT! BIG RAYS TOO POWERFUL!
60 MINUTES LATER
WELL, WE'VE TEMPORARILY CHECKED THEM, BUT IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL WE'LL BE WIPED OUT THERE'S ONLY ONE HOPE- THE EXPERIMENTAL EARTH BURROWING MACHINE!
NO TIME TO LOSE- LET'S GO!
5

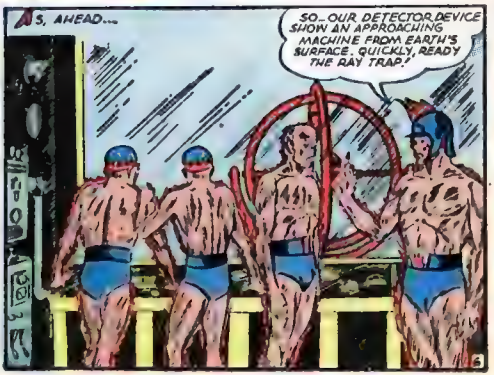

SOON... THAT'S IT. WE'D BEEN EXPECTING TO USE IT TO GATHER SCIENTIFIC DATA. IT'S MADE OF DURALIUM... IMPERVIOUS TO HEAT. BUT, WITH IT, PERHAPS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO CONTACT THESE FLAME PEOPLE.
IT'S WORTH A TRY, ANYWAY!


SWIFTLY THE GROUND MOLE IS HEADED TOWARD THE FISSURE INTO WHICH THE WEIRD FIRE CREATURES DISAPPEARED...
FULL POWER. WE'RE GOING DOWN!

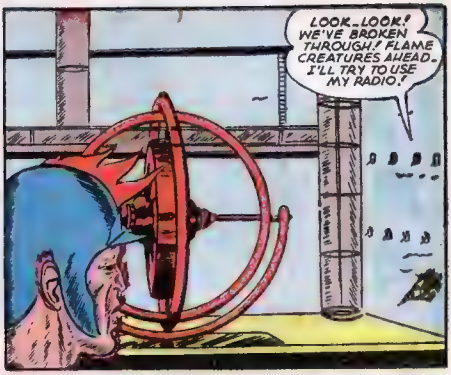

1500 FEET, FLINT. IT'LL BE A LONG TRIP DOWN.
AND LOOK AT THAT TEMPERATURE GAUGE SHOOT UP! BROTHER, IT'S HOT OUTSIDE!

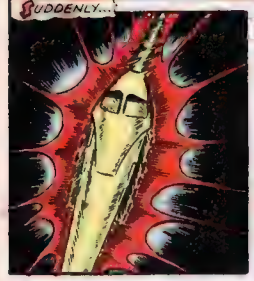
LATER...
LOOK AT THE CHUNKS O' EARTH THE DRILL NOSE SCOOPS AWAY. WE'RE ALREADY DOWN FIVE MILES!


Forward, EVER FORWARD, PLOWS THE STRANGE MACHINE.

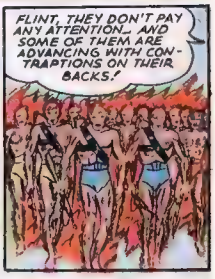

AS, AHEAD...
SO—OUR DETECTOR DEVICE SHOWS AN APPROACHING MACHINE FROM EARTH'S SURFACE. QUICKLY, READY THE RAY TRAP!

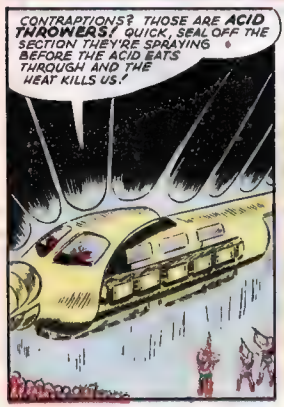
SOON...
RESISTANCE DIALS SHOW LESSENING PRESSURE. WE MUST BE APPROACHING A CLEARING.


LOOK--LOOK! WE'VE BROKEN THROUGH! FLAME CREATURES AHEAD--I'LL TRY TO USE MY RADIO!


SUDDENLY...

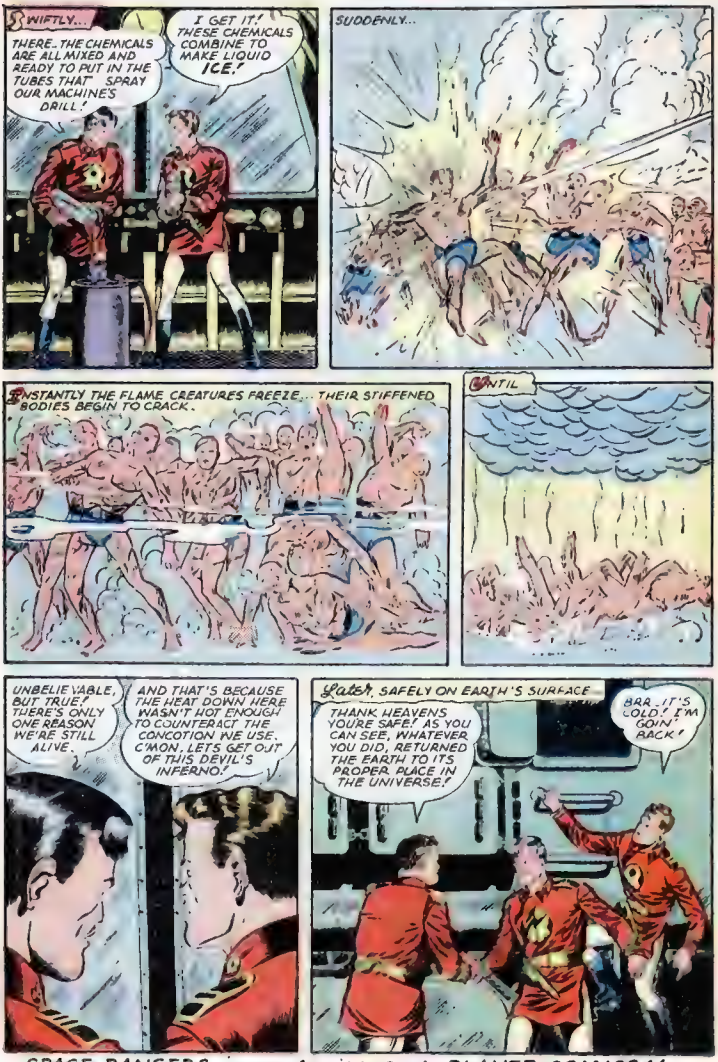
TRAPPED CAN'T MOVE FORWARD OR BACKWARD!
ATTENTION--LISTEN TO US. WE'D LIKE TO TALK TERMS!


FLINT, THEY DON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION... AND SOME OF THEM ARE ADVANCING WITH CONTRAPTIONS ON THEIR BACKS!


CONTRAPTIONS? THOSE ARE ACID THROWERS! QUICK, SEAL OFF THE SECTION THEY'RE SPRAYING BEFORE THE ACID EATS THROUGH AND THE HEAT KILLS US!

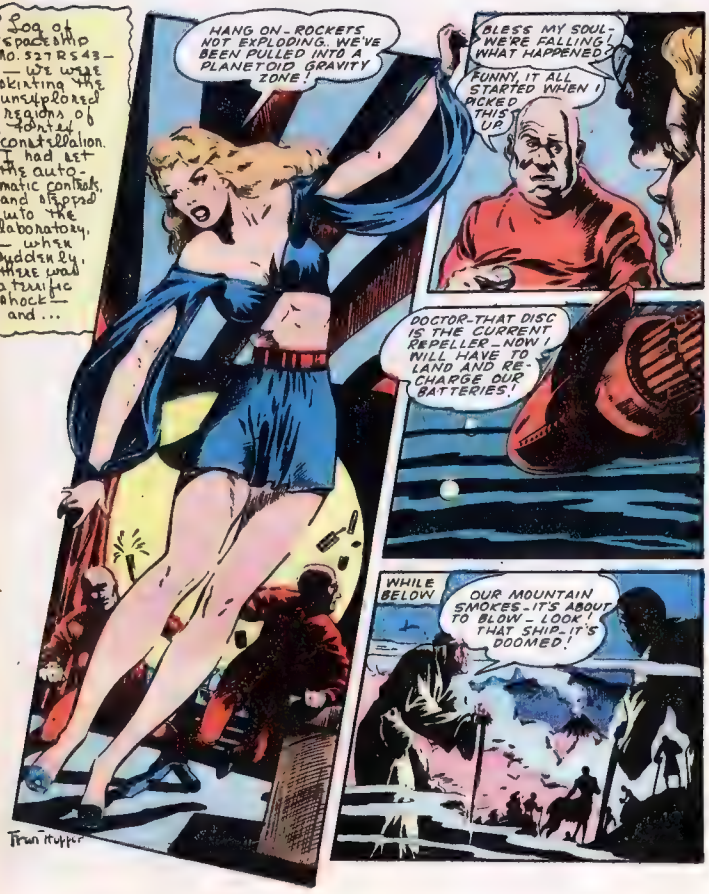
Quickly...
WHEW--SAVED FOR THE NONCE! BUT DON'T YOU GET IT, FLINT? THEY'RE TOYING WITH US--SPRAYING ONE SECTION AT A TIME. EVENTUALLY WE'LL BE LICKED!

WAIT. THERE'S A SLIM CHANCE! FOLLOW ME!


SWIFTLY...
THERE..THE CHEMICALS ARE ALL MIXED AND READY TO PUT IN THE TUBES THAT SPRAY OUR MACHINE'S DRILL!
I GET IT! THESE CHEMICALS COMBINE TO MAKE LIQUID ICE!
SUDDENLY...
INSTANTLY THE FLAME CREATURES FREEZE... THEIR STIFFENED BODIES BEGIN TO CRACK.
UNTIL
UNBELIEVABLE, BUT TRUE! THERE'S ONLY ONE REASON WE'RE STILL ALIVE.
AND THAT'S BECAUSE THE HEAT DOWN HERE WASN'T HOT ENOUGH TO COUNTERACT THE CONCOTION WE USE. C'MON, LET'S GET OUT OF THIS DEVIL'S INFERNO!
Later, SAFELY ON EARTH'S SURFACE
THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE SAFE! AS YOU CAN SEE, WHATEVER YOU DID, RETURNED THE EARTH TO ITS PROPER PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE!
BAR...IT'S COLD! I'M GOIN' BACK!

Gale Allen

by Douglas McKee

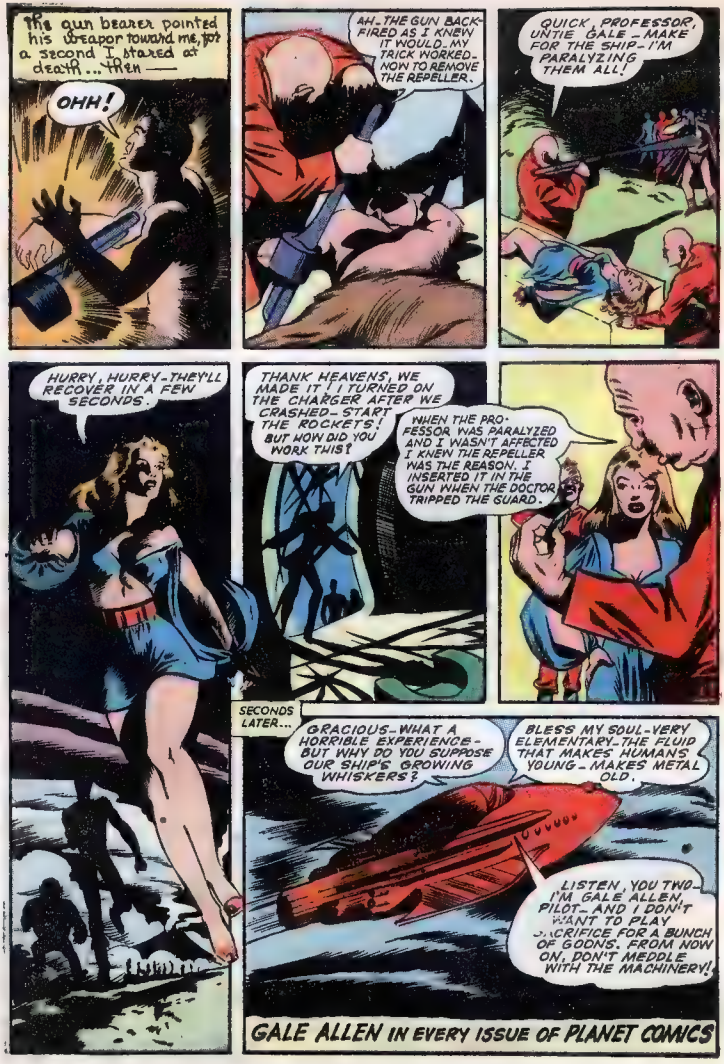

Log of spaceship No. 527 RS 43 — We were skirting the unexplored regions of Vortex constellation. I had set the automatic controls, and stepped into the laboratory, — when suddenly, there was a terrific shock — and...
HANG ON - ROCKETS NOT EXPLODING. WE'VE BEEN PULLED INTO A PLANETOID GRAVITY ZONE!
BLESS MY SOUL - WE'RE FALLING! WHAT HAPPENED?
FUNNY, IT ALL STARTED WHEN I PICKED THIS UP.
DOCTOR - THAT DISC IS THE CURRENT REPELLER - NOW I WILL HAVE TO LAND AND RECHARGE OUR BATTERIES!
WHILE BELOW
OUR MOUNTAIN SMOKES - IT'S ABOUT TO BLOW - LOOK! THAT SHIP - IT'S DOOMED!
Irwin Hasen

THERE-THERE-IT SPOUTS-RUN BROTHERS, RUN-FILL YOUR VESSELS, EVERY DROP IS PRECIOUS!
WHILE IN THE SHIP-
BLESS MY SOUL-WE'VE HIT SOMETHING!
GRACIOUS-THIS IS AWFUL!
MINUTES LATER-
COME ON, CLIMB OUT-WE'VE LANDED. WHAT IS THIS STUFF?
OUR SHIP'S COVERED WITH A STRANGE GROWTH. WHAT IS IT?
VERY SIMPLE, IT'S-LOOK WE'RE GOING TO HAVE VISITORS
QUICK, SHOOT THE MEN!
INSTANTLY-
2

BLESS MY SOUL - THAT'S A STRANGE GUN... IT SHOOTS, BUT NOTHING HAPPENS. MAN - MAN - WHAT'S THE MATTER? WAKE UP - WAKE UP!
HE'S PARALYZED, BUT WILL RECOVER IN A FEW SECONDS - GOATMEN, BRING THEM ALONG TO THE PALACE.
GRACIOUS - WHAT HAPPENED... LET ME DOWN - LET ME DOWN.
THANK HEAVENS YOU'VE RECOVERED, PROFESSOR. BUT I, CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY THE DOCTOR WASN'T AFFECTED.
So they led us to the building. It was obvious that the goatmen were the slaves of these strange, withered people — then...
TAKE US TO THE RULER - I WILL DEMAND OUR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
YES - YES I WILL TAKE YOU, HURRY - HE IS WAITING!
BLESS MY SOUL - I DON'T LIKE THE WAY HE SAYS THAT!
3

SECONDS LATER-
YOUR MAJESTY- WE LANDED HERE BY ACCIDENT... WE DEMAND TO BE RELEASED
SILENCE, EARTH GIRL YOUR CASE WILL BE HEARD LATER. SLAVES, PREPARE THE BATH!
WE ARE CURSED, IN THAT OUR PLANETOID IS BUT A SHORT DISTANCE FROM OUR SUN- SO WE AGE WITHIN A YEAR... BUT THE MOUNTAIN GOD IS KIND- HE IT IS WHO MAKES THE GEYSER GUSH THE HEALING WATER. AH- THEY ARE WAITING- WATCH!
THEN...
HURRY, SLAVES- POUR THE HEALING WATER... DAUGHTER, ARE YOU READY?
YES, FATHER- BUT HAVE YOU FORGOTTON THAT I REGAIN MY BEAUTY, ONLY TO DIE?
And before my eyes I saw their skin freshen and grow young again... then the king spoke-
YES, DAUGHTER, YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL- TOO BEAUTIFUL TO BE SACRIFICED TO THE MOUNTAIN GOD! WHERE IS THE EARTH GIRL?

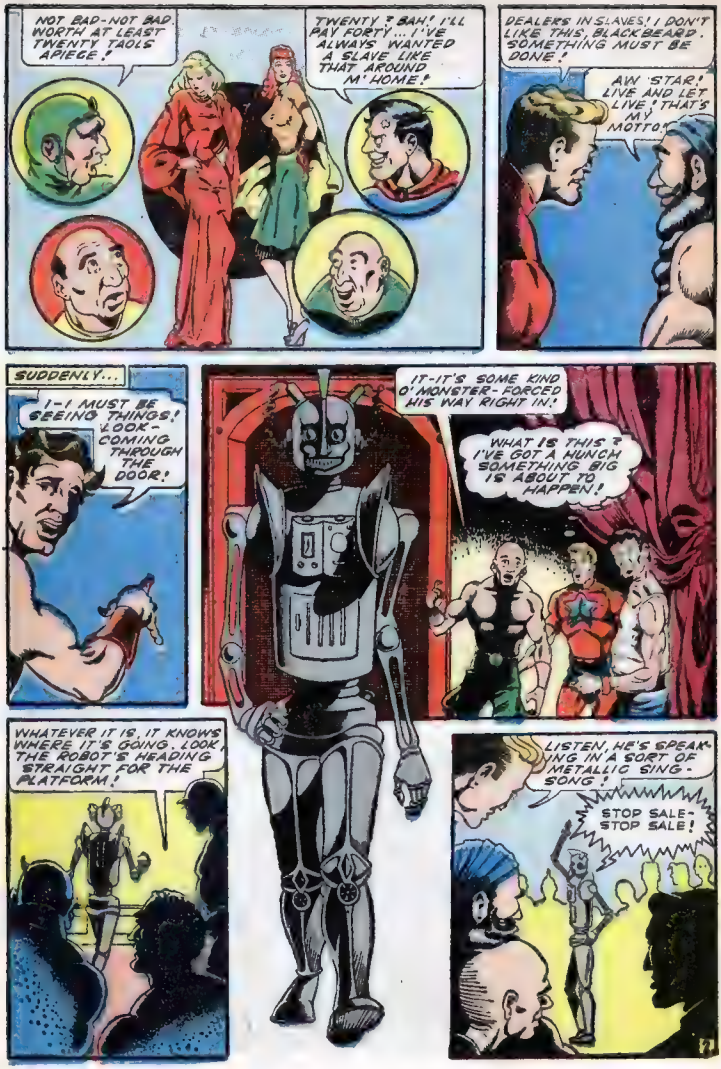
HERE I AM, NOW YOU'LL CALL OFF THESE GUARDS AND HELP US!
THERE WAS SOMETHING I NEGLECTED TO TELL YOU— THE MOUNTAIN GOD DEMANDS A SACRIFICE — GUARDS, SEIZE HER!
HERE—TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF HER—DO YOU HEAR ME?
THEY PAY NO ATTENTION— QUICK, TRIP THE ONE WITH THE GUN!
INSTANTLY
CLUMSY FOOL—IF I WASN'T AFRAID I'D MISS THE SACRIFICE, I'D TEACH YOU HOW TO MIND YOUR FEET!
BLESS MY SOUL—IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!
AND SECONDS LATER
STOP—STOP—LET ME LIVE, DON'T—DON'T!
GOATMEN, SHOOT HER WITH THE PARALYZING RAYS—SHE'LL DIE EASIER!

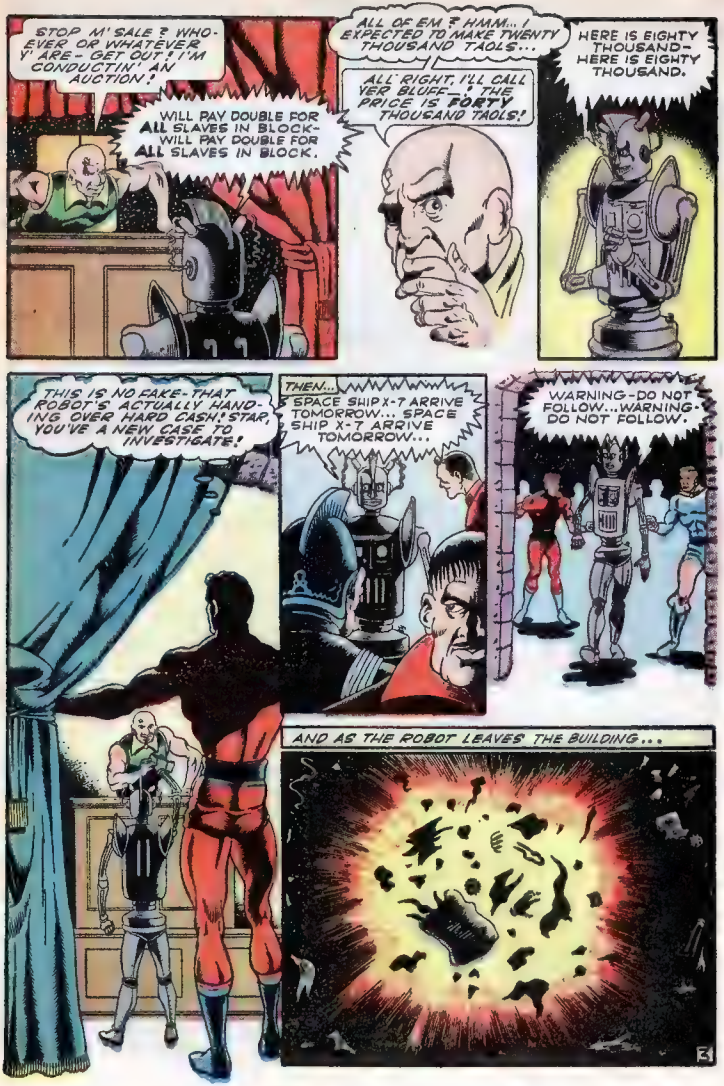

The gun bearer pointed his weapon toward me, for a second I stared at death ... then ——
OHH!
AH-THE GUN BACK-FIRED AS I KNEW IT WOULD-MY TRICK WORKED-NOW TO REMOVE THE REPELLER.
QUICK, PROFESSOR, UNTIE GALE-MAKE FOR THE SHIP-I'M PARALYZING THEM ALL!
HURRY, HURRY-THEY'LL RECOVER IN A FEW SECONDS.
THANK HEAVENS, WE MADE IT! I TURNED ON THE CHARGER AFTER WE CRASHED-START THE ROCKETS! BUT HOW DID YOU WORK THIS?
WHEN THE PROFESSOR WAS PARALYZED AND I WASN'T AFFECTED I KNEW THE REPELLER WAS THE REASON. I INSERTED IT IN THE GUN WHEN THE DOCTOR TRIPPED THE GUARD.
SECONDS LATER...
GRACIOUS-WHAT A HORRIBLE EXPERIENCE-BUT WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE OUR SHIPS GROWING WHISKERS?
BLESS MY SOUL-VERY ELEMENTARY-THE FLUID THAT MAKES HUMANS YOUNG-MAKES METAL OLD.
LISTEN, YOU TWO-I'M GALE ALLEN, PILOT-AND I DON'T WANT TO PLAY SACRIFICE FOR A BUNCH OF GOONS. FROM NOW ON, DON'T MEDDLE WITH THE MACHINERY!
GALE ALLEN IN EVERY ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS

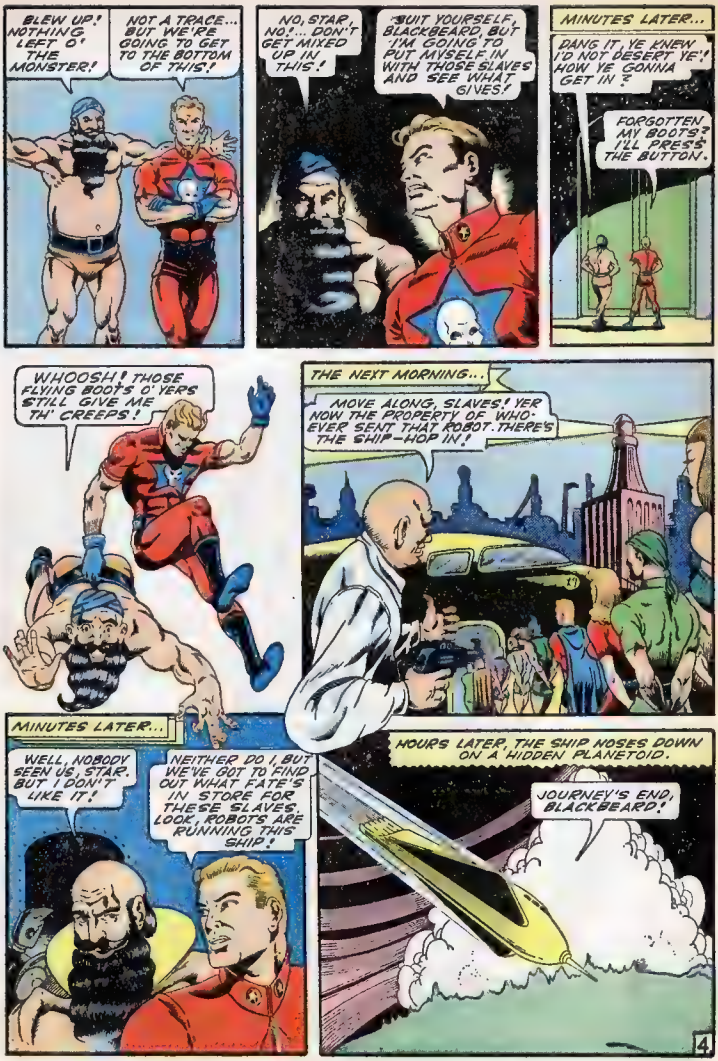
STAR PIRATE

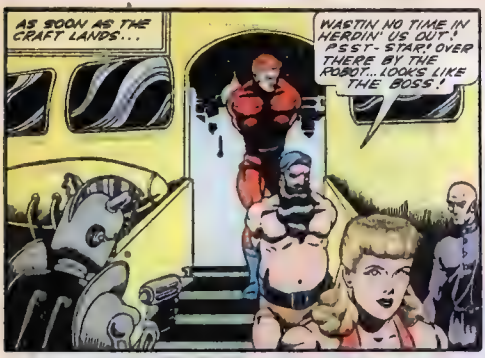
BY LEN DODSON

YER A FOOL FOR VISITIN' THIS AUCTION PLACE, STAR. IT'S ON TH' UP AND UP... AND DON'T LOOK AT ME THAT WAY, I'VE NEVER BEEN INSIDE THE PLACE!
EH...? OF COURSE, BLACKBEARD, I WOULDN'T DOUBT YOU!
HMM.. WHAT WAS THAT YOU WERE SAYING BEFORE?
BUT AS BLACK-BEARD ENTERS...
WELCOME HOME!
BLACKBEARD!
HEY, LOOK WHO'S HERE — OUR OLD BUDDY!
SILENCE BACK THERE! THE AUCTION'S READY TO BEGIN, AN' I'LL TOLERATE NO NOISE!... ALL RIGHT, BRING OUT THE FIRST LOT.


NOT BAD - NOT BAD WORTH AT LEAST TWENTY TAOLS APIECE!
TWENTY? BAH! I'LL PAY FORTY... I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A SLAVE LIKE THAT AROUND M'HOME!
DEALERS IN SLAVES! I DON'T LIKE THIS, BLACKBEARD. SOMETHING MUST BE DONE!
AW 'STAR! LIVE AND LET LIVE! THAT'S MY MOTTO!
SUDDENLY...
I-I MUST BE SEEING THINGS! LOOK - COMING THROUGH THE DOOR!
IT-IT'S SOME KIND O' MONSTER - FORCED HIS WAY RIGHT IN!
WHAT IS THIS? I'VE GOT A HUNCH SOMETHING BIG IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN!
WHATEVER IT IS, IT KNOWS WHERE IT'S GOING. LOOK, THE ROBOT'S HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE PLATFORM!
LISTEN, HE'S SPEAKING IN A SORT OF METALLIC SING-SONG!
STOP SALE - STOP SALE!


STOP M' SALE ? WHO-EVER OR WHATEVER Y' ARE - GET OUT ! I'M CONDUCTIN' AN AUCTION !
WILL PAY DOUBLE FOR ALL SLAVES IN BLOCK- WILL PAY DOUBLE FOR ALL SLAVES IN BLOCK.
ALL OF EM ? HAMM... I EXPECTED TO MAKE TWENTY THOUSAND TAOLS...
ALL RIGHT, I'LL CALL YER BLUFF - THE PRICE IS FORTY THOUSAND TAOLS!
HERE IS EIGHTY THOUSAND- HERE IS EIGHTY THOUSAND.
THIS IS NO FAKE-THAT ROBOT'S ACTUALLY HANDING OVER HARD CASH! STAR, YOU'VE A NEW CASE TO INVESTIGATE!
THEN...
SPACE SHIP X-7 ARRIVE TOMORROW... SPACE SHIP X-7 ARRIVE TOMORROW...
WARNING-DO NOT FOLLOW...WARNING-DO NOT FOLLOW.
AND AS THE ROBOT LEAVES THE BUILDING...


BLEW UP! NOTHING LEFT O' THE MONSTER!
NOT A TRACE... BUT WE'RE GOING TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!
NO, STAR, NO!... DON'T GET MIXED UP IN THIS!
SUIT YOURSELF, BLACKBEARD, BUT I'M GOING TO PUT MYSELF IN WITH THOSE SLAVES AND SEE WHAT GIVES!
MINUTES LATER...
DANG IT, YE KNEW I'D NOT DESERT YE! HOW YE GONNA GET IN?
FORGOTTEN MY BOOTS? I'LL PRESS THE BUTTON.
WHOOSH! THOSE FLYING BOOTS O' YERS STILL GIVE ME TH' CREEPS!
THE NEXT MORNING...
MOVE ALONG, SLAVES! YER NOW THE PROPERTY OF WHOEVER SENT THAT ROBOT. THERE'S THE SHIP—HOP IN!
MINUTES LATER...
WELL, NOBODY SEEN US, STAR, BUT I DON'T LIKE IT!
NEITHER DO I, BUT WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT FATE'S IN STORE FOR THESE SLAVES. LOOK, ROBOTS ARE RUNNING THIS SHIP!
HOURS LATER, THE SHIP NOSES DOWN ON A HIDDEN PLANETOID.
JOURNEY'S END, BLACKBEARD!

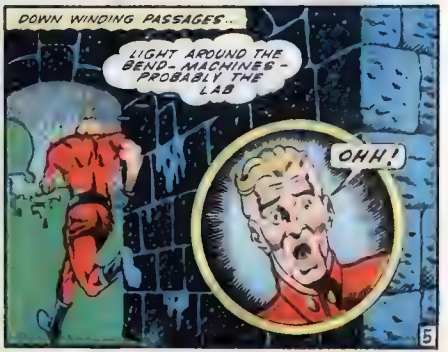

AS SOON AS THE CRAFT LANDS...
WASTIN NO TIME IN HERDIN' US OUT! PSST- STAR! OVER THERE BY THE ROBOT...LOOKS LIKE THE BOSS!

AHH...AN EXCELLENT SHIPMENT. NOW MY GRAFTING EXPERIMENTS MAY CONTINUE! THROW THEM IN THE PRISON YARDS.

LATER...
STAY HERE, BLACK-BEARD! WE'LL ESCAPE TONIGHT!
NOT ON YER LIFE! I'M ESCAPIN' IN MY OWN WAY- AND DOIN' MY OWN INVESTIGATING! S'LONG!

THAT NIGHT
THAT BIG BEARDED FOOL MUST'VE GOTTEN OUT! HAVEN'T SEEN HIDE NOR HAIR OF HIM! BUT FIRST TO GET OVER THIS CHARGED FENCE!

OVER! AND WHAT'S THAT AHEAD? LOOKS LIKE THE MAIN BUILDING! I'LL TAKE A QUICK LOOK!


DOWN WINDING PASSAGES..
LIGHT AROUND THE BEND- MACHINES - PROBABLY THE LAB
OHH!

A STRANGE SCENE UNFOLDS BEFORE STAR PIRATE, AS TERRIFIED PRISONERS ARE FORCED UNDER PARALYZER RAYS...

THEN..

NOW.. DIP THEM IN THE TALLOW. THAT'LL KEEP THEM ALIVE, AND IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION!

AHH! A GOOD SUPPLY- AND THE FIRST VICTIM IS ON THE TABLE..! WHAT SHALL I MAKE THIS ONE?

BY THE WAY, IF WHOEVER IS HIDING BEHIND WILL KINDLY STEP FORWARD... YOUR RETREAT IS BLOCKED!

WHAT!

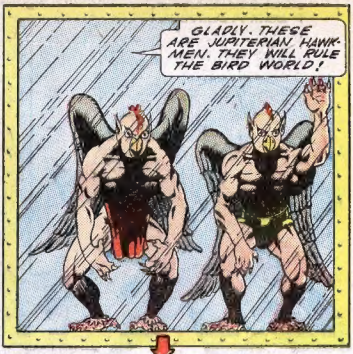
HE WASN'T FOOLING - TWO ROBOTS HUGGING MY TAIL! BUT I'LL STRING ALONG AND KEEP MY BOOTS AS MY ACE IN THE HOLE!

FORWARD - FORWARD!

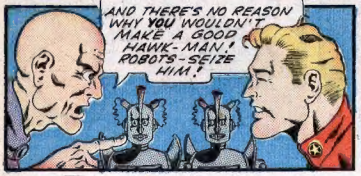
DOCTOR CICOR, MY FRIEND. YOU SEE, TELEVISOR WARNINGS GUARD ALL THE PASSAGES. COME, SINCE YOU'VE GONE TO SO MUCH TROUBLE, I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND.

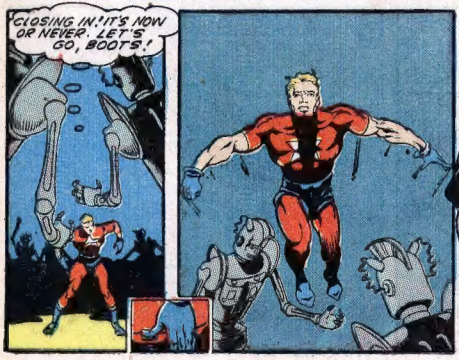
HE'S SMOOTH!

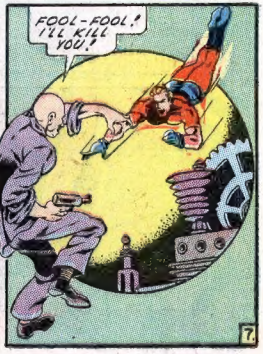
A FEW OF MY EXPERIMENTS. YOU SEE, MOST WOULD-BE DICTATORS ARE SATISFIED TO RULE ONLY HUMANS. BUT I DESIRE POWER OVER EVERYTHING. I, OF COURSE, EVENTUALLY WILL RULE MAN WITH MY ROBOTS. BUT THIS CREATURE IS AN EARTHMAN WITH A VENUSIAN BODY. HE WILL BE MY RULER FOR THE WATER WORLDS!
GO ON!


GLADLY. THESE ARE JUPITERIAN HAWK-MEN. THEY WILL RULE THE BIRD WORLD!

AND THESE LIZARD MEN WILL CONTROL THE ANIMAL KINGDOM! WHEN I HAVE ENOUGH CREATURES, I WILL STRIKE! THEN THE UNIVERSE WILL BE MINE!


AND THERE'S NO REASON WHY YOU WOULDN'T MAKE A GOOD HAWK-MAN! ROBOTS - SEIZE HIM!


CLOSING IN! IT'S NOW OR NEVER. LET'S GO, BOOTS!


FOOL-FOOL! I'LL KILL YOU!
7

SORRY, DOCTOR, I'M CHANGING YOUR PLANS! TRY MY PRESCRIPTION!
ROBOTS STOPPED! THEY WON'T WORK AS LONG AS THIS MADMAN IS UNCONSCIOUS!
SO THAT GIVES ME A BREATHING SPELL TO TRY THIS REACTIVATOR MACHINE ON THOSE TALLOWED SLAVES! POOR BLACKBEARD, SORT O' MISS THE GUV!
I'M FREE!
AHH, IT'S WORKING...! THEY'RE MELTING - COMING BACK TO LIFE! WAIT- THAT - THAT'S BLACKBEARD!
DURN YE! LAUGH-LAUGH, SEE IF I CARE!
CAN'T HELP IT! BUT COME ON, ROUND UP ALL THE SLAVES AND FREE THEM...
THEN PUT THEM ON THE SPACE SHIP...THOSE POOR DEVILS THE CRAZY DOCTOR OPERATED ON ARE ALREADY DOOMED, SO THIS WAY IS THE BEST! I'LL SET THE FUSE ON THESE ROBOTS.
MINUTES LATER...
LOOK BELOW! THAT'S THE KNOCKOUT BLOW TO DOCTOR CICOR'S PLAN TO RULE THE UNIVERSE!

STAR PIRATE in every issue of PLANET COMICS!!

FREE 150 POWER MICROSCOPE

with this offer

COMPLETE READY TO USE

Here's a fine, complete microscope for you **FREE.** This superior instrument magnifies 150 times, and is all ready to use at once. Substantially made, this wonderful microscope rests in a large base, has a tilted stand, with adjustable mirror. It has powerful lenses, with focusing adjustment. This lifetime microscope also comes to you with glass slides and directions. These features make microscopy as simple as ABC and as exciting as possible . . . There is nothing to put together, and nothing to assemble. It is completely equipped. Everything packed in a neat, sturdy corrugated container. This marvelous microscope reveals to your fascinated eyes thousands of nature's hidden secrets and wonders of living things —insects, microbes, foods, minerals, etc. — beautiful, monstrous, strange and bewildering . . . Study these thousands of objects by turning on them this 150-power microscope — perform simple and startling experiments on them, and become the envy of your friends.

This whole outfit made in U.S.A.— complete microscope, slides and directions — are yours ABSOLUTELY FREE . . . while the supply lasts . . . by quickly accepting our amazing offer on the big, miracle-book of science and nature, WONDERS OF LIVING THINGS.

PACKED WITH 1,000 PICTURES

This sensational volume is easy to read, thrilling to follow, simple to understand. Photographs explain the text, picture-diagrams illustrate the stories, and pictorial life-stories simplify the exciting information. There are dozens of absorbing chapters on thousands of animals, plants and human life. Hundreds and hundreds of pictures of every kind and size, and even wonderful panoramic pictures OVER A FOOT WIDE. Learn nature and science the quick, new, easy, picture-story way. Your friends will soon be astonished by your immense knowledge. Everyone will admire you.

THE MIRACLE WORLD OF ALL LIFE

When you open this BIG MIRACLE BOOK full of exciting pictures, you enter at once into the adventurous world of living nature. Here are MARVELS of human life. MYSTERIES of plant life. WONDERS of animal life. Here are strange beasts from the polar regions, fascinating fish from the bottom of the sea, amazing birds from distant skies, and curious animals from the jungles of Asia and Africa. Here are HUNDREDS OF THRILLING STORIES about them, all true, all instructive and all in BIG, PICTURE-CROWDED PAGES.

THRILLING MYSTERIES OF LIVING WONDERS

Call the roll of the most fascinating creatures in the world. Look at them in thrilling pictures. Read about them in entertaining stories. Tree-climbing crabs that steal cocoanuts. Terrifying worms that chase men and animals. Dragons of Komodo who eat through metal. Innocent-looking flowers that trap insects and eat them. Fish that catch flies for food by spitting up at them out of the water. Small killer whales that slaughter huge whales 100 times their size. These are just a few of the mysterious creatures that you look at and read about. Just a few of the thousands of reading thrills which crowd the LARGE PICTURE-PACKED pages of this miracle-book of science and nature.

BIG FREE OFFER

EXAMINE IT FREE

If you send for the big WONDERS OF LIVING THINGS immediately, you will receive FREE with your order the 150-power microscope pictured above together with glass slides and directions. You will be overwhelmingly delighted, but if you're not you may return them for full refund within five days. THIS BIG FREE OFFER IS LIMITED to the supply of microscopes available to us. Due to war conditions, we cannot guarantee this for very long. To avoid disappointment, ACT WHILE THE SUPPLY LASTS. Send no money. RUSH COUPON TODAY.

METRO PUBLICATIONS
383 Broadway, NEW YORK

RUSH COUPON NOW

SEND NO MONEY

METRO PUBLICATIONS, Dept. 211-F
383 Broadway, New York 13, N. Y.

Send me a copy of WONDERS OF LIVING THINGS . . . also include my complete 150-power microscope outfit with slides. I will pay postman $1.98 plus postage on arrival. If I am not satisfied I may return them within five days for full refund.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....

☐ Check here if you are enclosing $1.98, thus saving mailing costs. (same guarantee).
Canadian orders, $2.50 in advance.

GIVEN

Your Choice of Valuable GIFTS OR CASH

Smart, brilliant Sterling Silver BIRTHSTONE RING, correct for your month. GIVEN for selling 5 boxes.

LADIES' SHEER RAYON HOSIERY GIVEN for selling 5 boxes.

TELESCOPE GIVEN for selling 3 boxes. Powerful. Spot planes, ships, etc.

Given for selling new Gold Crown Spot Remover and Cleaner at 25c each and returning the money collected as per our free Gift catalog-circular. Send coupon for order to start. Dozens of useful gifts offered.

LEATHER BILLFOLD—full size—good looking. GIVEN for selling 5 boxes.

TRUE LOVE LOCKET space for 2 pictures an inside. 18 inch chain. GIVEN for selling 10 boxes.

Beautiful, Simulated PEARL EARRINGS. GIVEN for selling 5 boxes.

Enclose this coupon in an envelope or paste it on a postcard and send it to GOLD CROWN PRODUCTS, Dept. E362, Jefferson, Iowa, for order to start.

Gift Wanted .....

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State .....

GOLD CROWN PRODUCTS Dept. E362 Jefferson, Iowa

Mail The Gift Coupon

Accept These New Glowing Earrings

GIVEN FOR PROMPTNESS

Given with your order for Matched Bridal Pair for ten days' examination. Beautiful Gardenias that glow in the dark; are truly romantic and alluring. Mystifying and thrilling. Just send the coupon and accept these earrings as our gift to you with romance design engagement ring set with flashing imitation Diamond solitaire in sentimental, orange blossom mounting and matching Wedding ring.

Also Accept Wedding and Engagement RINGS

Send for both the Simulated Diamond Solitaire and the matching wedding ring and accept them on 10 days' trial and we will include the glamorous Gardenia Earrings without cost. If you do not fully agree that the Matched Bridal Pair is a marvelous bargain return them within ten days and your money will be refunded, BUT YOU ARE TO KEEP THE EXOTIC, GLOWING FLOWERS AS OUR GET-ACQUAINTED GIFT.

Empire Diamond Co., Dept. 44GN, Jefferson, Iowa.

Please send me ☐ Solitaire Ring ☐ Wedding Ring. I can return my purchase in 10 days and you will refund my money but I am to keep the earrings as your get-acquainted gift, in any event. I am to receive a gift of the Gardenia Earrings if I order the Matched Bridal Pair.

Name .....

Address .....

City .....

State ..... Ring Size .....

SEND NO MONEY

TEN DAYS' TRIAL

Send the coupon today. When your package arrives you pay the postman only $1.98 for each ring or $3.89 for both rings, plus mailing cost and 20% Federal Tax. You will be thrilled and delighted with the sparkling beauty and sentimental design of this matched Bridal Pair.

$1.98 EACH BOTH FOR $3.89

EMPIRE DIAMOND CO., Dept. 44GN, Jefferson, Iowa

New PERFUME COSTUME ENSEMBLE

Colorful Necklace Bracelet and Earrings

$1.00 Each

Or All 3 For $2.79

Here Is Romance Glorified. Your choice of 6 lovely colors in a necklace, bracelet and earrings all matching in beauty of rich, exotic color and perfume that attracts lovers and mystifies friends. Each bead is artistically designed like a miniature rosebud and exudes a delicate, intriguing perfume at all times.

Exact Size of Rosebud Design

SEND NO MONEY

Ten Days Trial. Let us know what color you want. Your package sent immediately and you pay the postman only $1.00 each or all three articles are only $2.79 plus 20% Federal Tax and a few cents mailing cost on arrival. Supplies limited.

GIVEN For Promptness

Purse size plastic case of exotic, solid PERFUME given for promptness if you order the complete ensemble of earrings, bracelet and necklace.

EMPIRE DIAMOND CO. Dept. 75 NL Jefferson, Iowa

EMPIRE DIAMOND CO., Dept. 75NL Jefferson, Iowa
Please send me this New, Perfume-Costume Jewelry as marked:

..... Necklace ..... Bracelet ..... Earrings

If I order all 3 of the above I am to be given your purse size plastic case filled with solid perfume. I understand I can return my purchase any time within 10 days for any reason and you will refund promptly.

COLOR
☐ Rose Red
☐ Tulip Pink
☐ Fern Green
☐ Forget-Me-Not Blue
☐ Daffodil Yellow
☐ Orchid

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State .....